

5 October 2018
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Miller Arts Scholars Minigrant Proposal

Funding for Recording Equipment

Creating music can be simple. I find myself doing it all the time; singing to myself on the drive to work, picking up my guitar and thumbing around until I find something that strikes me. Sharing music properly, however, can be more difficult, which is where recording equipment becomes crucial.

Throughout high school I recorded all of my songs using Garageband and an omnidirectional microphone that conveniently plugged into the headphone jack on my laptop. It fulfilled most of my musical needs at the time, producing somewhat lo-fi multitrack songs that all had a certain fuzz behind them. When I got to UVa, I began to record with other musicians and producers, ultimately using the microphones they had at their disposal, but I have always known that in order to create the music that I dream about creating, I will need more high quality recording equipment. My current goal is to continue recording the solo album that I have been working on and to record and release work under the artist name LAMB, a collaborative project I have been working on.

I work two jobs during the school year and have been saving up to buy a Cox Tweed Deluxe Clone amplifier, or one of a similar sound and make, as well as a nice recording microphone, and a reverb pedal to accompany the amp. With the help of Miller Arts Scholars funding I would be able to reach my goal more quickly. If I am awarded the minigrant funding, I plan to first invest in the Cox Tweed Deluxe Clone amplifier; I keep a close eye on the Reverb.com listings, which are frequently posted. After that purchase, I plan to use the money that I have saved to buy effect pedals for the amplifier, and eventually, a new recording microphone as well. Having the amplifier will not only considerably improve my sound when I play shows, but it will help me to achieve the full guitar sound in recordings that I am trying to obtain. Until now I have mostly been recording guitar tracks using line-in straight into the interface, but with the new amplifier I would be able to record mic-to-amp instead, which captures a fuller, more natural sound.

If I receive the funding, I plan to act quickly so that I will be able to use my new amplifier for my solo album that is currently in the works, as well as for LAMB's first EP that is also underway.

Budget

Cox Tweed Deluxe Clone amplifier - roughly \$600-\$700

Reverb guitar pedal - roughly \$100

Recording microphone - between \$200-\$400

These are rough estimations of what the equipment cost will be. New listings are posted daily, so it is difficult to say exactly how much each piece of equipment will cost. I am aware that the budget I have provided is well over the \$500 limit, but I plan to put my savings toward the leftover costs.