

**Kate Bollinger - Creative Writing
Miller Arts Scholars
Spring 2019 Minigrant Proposal**

Merchandise & Resources Fund

In recent months, with the release of numerous singles, I have been in contact with a number of visual artists about producing album artwork and designs for merchandise. My three most recent singles featured the work of artists, Sophie Wheeler, Madeline De Michele, and former UVa student, Megan O'Neill. With works that have been specifically cultivated for my music, I have offered compensation for the artists out of pocket, which has undoubtedly been worth it, but can be taxing, especially at this point in my music career. I would love to keep working with these artists, as well as with others that I come across as I continue putting out work.

I have been in contact with another artist about having her design merchandise. As an artist myself, it feels unfair to not provide proper funding for her efforts. For my minigrant, I am proposing access to a fund for merchandise, which will cover the cost to order the totes, shirts, stickers, etc., and the cost of the artist's time and work. The rest of the fund, after the initial merchandise order and artist payout, will go toward paying future artists for their work and future re-orders of merchandise.

Below are some examples of the album artwork that I have used in the past:



Single: "Softer"

Artist: Sophie Wheeler



Single: "do u go out together?"

Artist: Madeline De Michele



Single: Tests

Artist: Megan O'Neill

Budget

Upcoming single #1	\$30
Upcoming single #2	\$30-\$50
Merchandise order	\$200
Miscellaneous artist work + merch re-order	Remaining amount: ~\$220-\$240
Total	\$500

Timeline

If I receive this minigrant, I plan to pay Sophie Wheeler in the next couple of weeks as she designs the artwork for my new single. I will also find artwork for the other single that I plan to release soon and will pay the artist depending on their rate. I have already spoken with an artist about designing merchandise, so I will follow up about that, confirm the design, and put in my first merch order. I will use social media platforms to get people interested and depending on how the initial merchandise turns out, I will place a follow-up order or find another design. Having a fund to compensate artists for their work will be so helpful especially in the next few months as I release more music.

March	Pay artist Sophie Wheeler for artwork, pay second artist for single #2 artwork, confirm designs for merchandise and place order
April	Run campaign for merchandise, begin selling at shows and online
June & July	Place second merchandise order, acquire enough merchandise to sell locally, online, and at shows/upcoming summer tour