Tina Hashemi
October 9 2020
Minigrant Proposal

Preparing for a DMP Recital
Project Overview

I am applying for a MAS Minigrant to fund virtual voice lessons with Danielle Wertz in preparation for my Distinguished Major Recital next spring. Last spring, I used a minigrant to begin studying with Danielle, and studying with her has been pivotal in my development as a singer. With her help, I have been able to work on honing my vocal technique through a new vocal method that prioritizes the natural sound we produce to lead out a more effortless sound. As a result, I have developed a more head-voice heavy mixed voice as opposed to the chesty-mixed voice that most jazz singers use and which I have adopted over the past two years, but is painful and forced for me to use. I have also been strengthening my chest voice so that I can develop a chesty mixed voice in a more healthy fashion that relies on breathwork rather than inappropriate manipulation of the vocal folds and throat. Additionally, Danielle has helped me in song interpretation and storytelling by helping me emotionally reconnect with the songs I've been preparing for my recital.

In continuing to study with Danielle, I will be able to further develop this new technique of singing and delve into the repertoire I am preparing for my recital next semester. She is also acting in an advising capacity for me in terms of music career and arranging and programming for my recital. The opportunity to study with her remotely has been rewarding and healing and I am so grateful to the Miller Arts Scholar program and the J Sanford Miller family to have supported me thus far. In the age of coronavirus when my performance opportunities are limited, I am happy to have the opportunity to reflect on the music I make emotionally and reconnect with it through a new lens.

Timeline
November-December: Attend bi-weekly zoom lessons with Danielle Wertz

Budget

Item	Cost	Justification
Private Lesson with Danielle Wertz	$500	Price of 6 one on one, hour long lessons with Danielle Wertz