

Tina Hashemi
March 5 2020
Minigrant Proposal

Continuing Professional Music Development

Project Overview

I am applying for a MAS Minigrant to purchase self promotional materials, equipment, and to further my musical development. Last year, I used my minigrant to create a website that showcases my portfolio as a jazz singer. This website has been instrumental in applying to workshops, competitions, and seeking out gigs. I am requesting money to continue its upkeep for another year. Additionally, I hope to hire photographers and videographers for several shows I have coming up so that I may have high quality photos and videos of myself singing to put up on the website to promote myself.

As a jazz singer, the microphone is an important part of my vocal instrument as it amplifies what sound I make in a unique way depending on the type microphone, which affects my sound quality and timbre. In several of my past shows and even rehearsals, I have used microphones that were too bright or low quality that project my voice in an unpleasant way. As I begin to do more and more performances, I find myself in need of a microphone with high bass and warmer affect - I have spoken about this to my voice teacher, Stephanie Nakasian, who has recommended I go to Sam Ash (music store) to find a microphone that suits my voice so that I have control over my sound as a singer. I am not sure the exact price of the microphone I will find but should the price go over the budget, I will cover additional costs myself.

Lastly, I hope to take a private voice lesson with Danielle Wertz, a professional jazz singer based in D.C. who I studied with briefly in high school. My vocal style and technique have changed a lot in the past year and I am experimenting with different areas of vocal jazz. At UVA, I have been lucky to study under Ms. Nakasian, which has offered an in-depth exploration of east coast style jazz singing. Ms. Wertz comes from a west coast jazz style of singing that isn't present in the Charlottesville jazz scene, and a lesson with her will help me cement what direction I want to move forward in with my own style by exposure to new techniques.

Timeline

March: Purchase website subscription, buy microphone from Sam Ash

March-April: Hire photographers to document shows, using new microphone

Late April: Private lesson with Ms. Wertz

Budget

Item	Cost	Justification
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Website Maintenance	\$144	A year long subscription to squarespace to keep my website up and running
Professional Videographer and Photographers	\$100	Cost of hiring professionals for four different concerts to properly record them
Private Lesson with Danielle Wertz	\$80	Price of one on one, hour long lesson with Danielle Wertz
Microphone	~\$176	Rough estimate of price of a professional microphone with high bass and warmth
TOTAL	\$500	

I am requesting \$500 for self promotional materials, equipment, and musical development. Should the costs exceed this budget, I will cover the rest from my savings.