

Tina Hashemi
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Minigrant Proposal

Establishing Eligibility for Consideration in Musical Employment, Workshops and Competitions

Project Overview

As an aspiring jazz vocalist, I have been using my time at UVA to grow my repertoire, hone my singing technique, and sing with other students in band settings in order to build a solid foundation for the skills I will need to make this my career. I have come to the point where I am seeking out more professional gigs and competitions but I have found myself lacking a suitable portfolio to present. Building an internet presence with professional recordings as a jazz vocalist is absolutely essential for being considered for serious gigs and competitions. Through the Miller Arts Scholar Foundation, I hope to build my portfolio by recording 4-5 arranged songs with my jazz band and create a website to display my work. This project is of exceptional importance to me in my development as a professional musician as I currently do not have any professionally recorded material nor any web presence. Having this web presence is necessary for applying to vocal jazz competitions and workshops, as well as being seriously considered for gigs at well-known music venues and weddings.

I will work closely with vocal jazz instructor Stephanie Nakasian to prepare my voice and scatting skills and with graduate student Rami Stucky to create arrangements of jazz standards to perform on the recording. I will then go into the studio within a month to record at Virginia Arts Recording. During this time, I will create a website through Squarespace that will contain pictures and videos of previous gigs, a biography, and future gigs. Once I receive the tapes from the studio, I will upload them and complete the site. By the close of November, I hope to successfully expand my community and online presence by getting more gigs and having a detailed and professional website. In early 2019, the applications for a host of vocal jazz competitions and workshops including the Ella Fitzgerald and Sarah Vaughan vocal jazz competitions will open and I can submit the professionally recorded demos to those organizations to further increase my presence in the professional jazz world.

Timeline

Mid-October: Create the website and work with graduate student Rami Stucky to arrange some songs for the demo

Late October: Record 4 or 5 demo songs at Virginia Arts Recording and eventually post demos to website

2019: Apply for the Ella Fitzgerald and Sarah Vaughan vocal jazz competitions with the website and demo tracks

Budget

	Cost	Justification
Recording and Mixing	\$430	A full day of recording and mixing for 5 songs at Virginia Arts Recording. Additional time will cost \$60/hour but I am willing to pay out of pocket
Website	\$72	This is the price for 6 months of maintaining a website through squarespace at a rate of \$12/month
TOTAL	\$502	