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Miller Arts Scholars

### **Viola Case and A String Funding Outcome Report**

I am extremely thankful for the Miller Arts Scholar Program for granting me funding to purchase a high-quality, lightweight viola case and an additional A string. With these materials, I was able to switch from my previous, extremely heavy viola case to a more comfortable and lightweight one and replace an old A string that I have been using for over a year.

I purchased the [Bam La Defense Hightech Contoured Viola Case](#) with my \$400 funding contributing towards the total amount of \$813.02. This case weighs a total of four pounds and one ounce and the exterior is made from lightweight ABS, aluminum, and Airex foam material. Additionally, the case came with backpack straps, a subway handle to attach on the top of the case, an accessory pouch, keys to lock the case when needed, and a cloth bag for storage purposes.

When I transferred my viola, two bows, shoulder rest, and various accessories including my rosin, mute, dampit, and cloth into the case, it remained extremely lightweight and very easy to carry, especially when wearing the backpack straps. Furthermore, this case easily fit my viola, which has a wider-than-average lower bout. Many cases were not able to fit my viola due to this reason, but with the Bam case, my viola not only fit but was able to rest snugly with an adjusting frame sponge inside the case.

I am extremely pleased with this new viola case. Carrying my previous case caused my shoulders and neck to hold lots of tension, which negatively affected my playing and made transportation of my viola burdensome and physically painful. My new Bam case is not only lightweight but also protective and practical. I look forward to being able to have easier transport with this new case.

I cannot thank the Miller Arts Scholar Program enough for providing me the funding for these various items and supporting my musical goals. These resources will help me for the rest of my time at UVA and beyond.

**Reference Picture:**

Case exterior:



Case interior, backpack straps, and cloth bag:

