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4th Year Arts Award Proposal

## Murmured Memories

### Project Summary

I plan to create a large digital archive of images, embodying the act of observation and chronicling beauty in mundanity. For this project, I am requesting \$3,000 for supplies, which will be detailed in the budget breakdown.

### Project Description

My goal is to create a digital archive that showcases beauty in the corners of everyday life. I hope the archive can be something a lot of people can feel a connection to, like they have seen a certain image before or it reminds them of a distant memory. Through this project, I hope to develop a deeper and healthier relationship to my art practice.

The reason I chose to create an archive is because I have been consistently drawn back to the idea of an archive as art after taking Intro to Studio Art with Professor Matthew Shelton and Intro to New Media I with Professor Calista Lyon. The Intro to New Media I class's focus surrounded the archive, but both classes introduced me to various artists and art pieces surrounding the archive.

I am drawing inspiration from one piece Professor Shelton showed to our class: [\*I'm Google\*](#). Similar to *I'm Google*, I hope to amass a large collection of images; however, I will not be using found images. With the grant, I hope to purchase a nice beginner mirrorless camera, sd cards, camera batteries, lenses, and other camera equipment. With these tools, I plan to take a large amount of photos of things most would deem unworthy of being archived, like a crack in a wall. I will try to take 15-20 photos every day after I get the camera. I will start by taking photos in my home and neighborhood, later moving on to other locations. Mostly, I must rely on being observant to my surroundings, incorporating this archive project into my daily life. Hopefully, I can collect around 2,000 images (this might be an underestimation). After collecting all the images, I will methodically arrange them in a specific order. I plan to create a slideshow of the images and a grid layout of the images.

A concern I have is the amount of storage required to store the images. To combat this, I will also factor in the cost of an external drive to the budget. Another concern I have is that it might be hard to stay organized when working with so many images, but I will try to combat this by labeling all my images and working in sections.

## **Faculty Mentor**

My faculty mentor is Federico Cuatlacuatl, Professor of New Media at the University of Virginia. I have had the pleasure of taking Professor Cuatlacuatl's Intro to New Media II class in the fall of 2023, and I am currently completing an Advanced Project in New Media with Professor Cuatlacuatl, which is being supported by a Miller Arts Minigrant. Professor Cuatlacuatl is an expert in the field of digital art and new media, often utilizing interdisciplinary approaches for his work. I am confident that Professor Cuatlacuatl will be an excellent source of guidance for this project, and I plan on asking him for advice and help if I run into any issues with the project.

## **Presentation**

To present the outcome of my project, I will either project the images on a blank wall in a specific order and in a continuous loop, or I will present it in the same format on a separate screen, like a computer monitor. I hope to have my laptop out so people can scroll through the archive themselves, seeing all images and how they interact together. In addition, I will create a presentation detailing the process of creating the images and assembling them in an archive, challenges faced during the process, and overall thoughts evaluating the experience.

## **Timeline**

### Spring 2024

- Watch tutorial videos or read articles on how to use the camera and other tools

### Summer 2024

- Purchase all necessary materials
- Start taking 15-20 photos per day
- Consistently back up photos

### Fall 2024

- Continue taking 15-20 photos per day
- Continue backing up photos
- Start to organize photos into a slide show
- Research what kind of website framework is best for a lot of images

### Spring 2024

- Finalize slideshow order
- Finalize grid layout display

## Budget

Category	Item	Description	Source	Date accessed	Quantity	Cost
Camera and Lenses	EOS R10 RF-S18-150mm F3.5-6.3 IS STM Lens Kit	Top mirrorless camera for beginners	<a href="#">Canon</a>	3/27	1	1379.00
	RF100mm F2.8 L MACRO IS USM	Lens for taking close up imagery	<a href="#">Canon</a>	3/27	1	1099.00
Other Equipment	Extra Battery	Extra LP-E17 battery	<a href="#">Amazon</a>	3/27	1	59.95
	SD card	SanDisk Extreme PRO SDXC™ UHS-II Card - 128 GB	<a href="#">Western Digital</a>	3/27	2	89.98
	SD card reader	USB-C to SD Card Reader	<a href="#">Apple</a>	3/27	1	39.00
	Lens cleaning kit	Includes Lens Blower, Detergent, Swabs, Cleaning Cloth, Cleaning Pen, and Cleaning Brush	<a href="#">Amazon</a>	3/27	1	18.99
	Camera bag	To store and transport camera and equipment safely	<a href="#">Canon</a>	3/27	1	50.00
	Flash	Speedlite 430EX III-RT Camera Flash	<a href="#">Canon</a>	3/27	1	299.99
	External Hard Drive	80 GB	<a href="#">Amazon</a>	3/27	1	13.59
<b>Total</b>						3049.50
<b>Requested Arts Award Amount</b>						-3000
<b>Personal Contribution</b>						-49.50
<b>Remaining Amount</b>						0