

Artist Minigrant Application
Proposal to Fund Accessories for Videography
Project Title: Videography for Dance
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To the Director of Miller Arts Scholars, Michael Rasbury,

My name is Yilin Liu and I am a third-year dance scholar in Miller Arts Scholar. I am requesting funding for accessories that will assist me to shoot better footage and produce better videos for various dance communities and for myself.

Though I am a dance scholar, I have developed an interest in shooting videos for dance since my first year. Currently I am the primary videographer for the Hip Hop dance community in UVA, and occasionally I cover events like the Scary New Band performance of UVA Jazz Ensemble (with my HooTube¹ team) as well as the upcoming Spring Dance Concert in Spring 2016. Because of the consistent and well-made videos I produced, the UVA Hip Hop dance community has made its name to the Charlottesville community as well as schools outside UVA, keeping a strong presence in dance communities in DMV area.

Up till now, however, I have shot all my videos with a Sony RX 100II camera and a mini-tripod, and the limitations due to the lack of supportive accessories have become obvious in multiple occasions when my artistic vision or practical need cannot be realized by the current equipment. Hence I am requesting funding for accessories that will support my videography and hence enable me to produce better videos. The accessories will assist me primarily in the shooting process, lighting, data management, and sound.² Besides, as I have always been learning from the videos of other people dancing and myself dancing, the accessories requested will also help me grow as a dancer, since they will enable me to capture moments of dance from perspectives new to me and will allow me to gain a better understanding of dance in general.

The results from this upgrade in accessories, if my request is approved, will be seen from the next Mighty workshop video I will be producing (April 1st), and the promotional video for the Spring Dance Concert of the University of Virginia (mid-April). Thank you for your willingness to support and consideration!

Yilin “Kingston” Liu
Class of 2017

¹ HooTube is a YouTube channel that aims to cover and promote arts on grounds. Started by Dante Venafro and directed by Peter Hazel and me, HooTube has covered multiple events and produced several concept videos (mostly dance). We have not yet officially launched the channel and currently the only publically released work is the recap video for UVA Jazz Ensemble’s performance in Fall 2015: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dPKFrv5amg>

² The need for sound accessory is explained in the footnote number 4.

The link below directs to a one-minute YouTube video compiling some of the videos I made as well as my roles in each work:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nleUtYFLY4>



BUDGET

Item	Price	Price Quote (shipping cost included if purchased prior to Mar 29, 2016) ³
YONGNUO Flashgun (Speedlight)	\$78.99	Amazon Link
CowboyStudio Aluminum Adjustable Light Stand	\$16.19	Amazon Link
Cowboystudio 33 inch Photography Studio Translucent Shoot Through White Umbrella	\$9.25	Amazon Link
CowboyStudio Hot Shoe Holder	\$5.95	Amazon Link
Kamerar's SD-1 Mark II Slider Dolly	\$164.95	Amazon Link
DMKFoto Heavy Duty Ball Head with Quick Release Plate	\$16.90	Amazon Link
AmazonBasics Battery Charger and Rechargeable AA Batteries	\$36.81	Amazon Link (Charger) Amazon Link (Batteries)
UE MINI BOOM Wireless Bluetooth Speaker ⁴	\$75.00	Amazon Link
Kingston Digital 64GB SDXC Class 10 UHS-I Flash Card	\$22.99	Amazon Link
Ravelli APLT4 61-inch Light Weight Aluminum Tripod With Bag	\$25.96	Amazon Link
TOTAL	\$452.99	

³ All the items in the Budget list are eligible for Amazon Prime, and my Amazon Prime membership will expire on March 29, 2016. I'm not planning on renewing the Amazon Prime membership, because I do not make frequent purchases on Amazon.

⁴ The reason I include a speaker in a purchase request for videography accessories is that, in the past when we shoot videos (especially dance videos and concept videos) in occasions when I need to provide the sound myself, the sound coming out of my laptop is hardly audible in wide open spaces. Even if the dancers can hear the sound sometimes, the barely audible sound in the footage often causes a lot of trouble in the editing process.