

## **Josephine Miller (Miller Scholar)**

### **Miller Arts Scholar Minigrant Proposal**

#### **Taking the Next Step**

I, Josephine Miller, am applying for an Arts Scholars Minigrant to support my upcoming attempts to revamp my overall artist portfolio and publicity and any associated fees regarding voice and publicity. I will be focusing not only on fine-tuning my voice in preparation for recordings, my DMP, competitions in the Spring, and application to a master class in Carnegie Hall, but also improving my general online and real-life professional presence in the arts community through website, video, headshots, and resume updates.

This summer, thanks to funding from the Miller Arts Scholars program, I had the life changing experience to study at the best summer voice 3-week intensive program of my life. Not only did I make invaluable connections with musicologists, voice teachers, and conductors and learn countless technique and musicality keys to opera, but I also learned a lot about what it takes to put ones name out there, artistically speaking. Being a young singer, so much of my branding will come from my first-hand efforts to publicize myself both generally and in hopes of making contact with other music programs and graduate schools. I hope to receive funding that will allow me to build and maintain a presence through updating headshots and recordings, purchasing access to YAPTracker- a well known and almost necessary site for singers who hope to apply to music programs and competitions nationally and internationally- and even staying in contact with some of the musicians I met this summer through occasional coaching sessions, which will prepare me not only overall, but specifically for my DMP recital songs and arias. In addition to these more personal undertakings, I plan to apply to and audition for a series of master classes taking place in New York at Carnegie Hall with prestigious performances like Renee Fleming and Marilyn Hall as coaches. The master class series, called "The Song Continues," accept applications through October 16 ([https://www.carnegiehall.org/2017-2018\\_The\\_Song\\_Continues/](https://www.carnegiehall.org/2017-2018_The_Song_Continues/)). I am currently in the final stages of recording and sending in my application and recommendations.

As I have progressed through the music department and the arts community at UVA, I have found myself met with countless life changing opportunities to further involve myself with not only my own art forms, but countless others'. In doing so, I have- and hope to continue to- also formed meaningful connections with other students of both music and other arts disciplines, much like the relationships I have been able to foster through the Miller Arts Program. It is my hope that, if I am accepted to the master class series, I will be able to form some of these fantastic relationships with these national and international singers as well. I hope to use this minigrant funding not only to improve my vocal technique, but also to form further connections in the voice industry and create a further "brand" and name for myself as a young soprano, student at the University of Virginia, and a Miller Arts Scholar.

**Timeline**

Fall 2017 – continue to work on recital repertoire, seek out competition opportunities, seek out photographers (and recording studios/videographers if time allows for adequate music learning)  
-October 2017- Schedule 2-3 coachings with Rolando Sanz and Giovanni Reggioli [D.C. based]  
-November 2017- schedule headshots, recording, and update resume & YAPTracker  
-December 2017- perform at juries with added assistance and knowledge of coachings & apply for spring competitions via YAPTracker

**Budget**

\$200	Headshot Photography ----- → includes photo session, touch up, editing, digital files
\$95	YAPTracker Subscription----- → includes access to auditions, email deadlines, and tracking tools for personal calendar, etc.
\$50-75	Pianist Fees----- → \$25 per extra lesson, depending on need → \$50 for recording session
\$10	Application Fee-----
\$255	Coachings----- \$85/coaching → Coachings last an hour each
~\$80	Gas----- → 239 miles roundtrip per trip X 2-3
~\$680-705	<b>Total</b> -----

While this budget does exceed the \$500 limit on the Art Scholar Minigrant, I am fully willing to personally assume the remaining costs pertaining to more minute details of this publicity goal. I am requesting the full \$500 to cover the basic fees including extra costs along the way that add up easily, including gas when driving to studios for recording, meeting off-location with a headshot photographer, and extra voice and pianist fees. Thank you so much for your consideration and continued support- I would not be the artist I am today without the past and hopefully continued support of the Miller Arts Scholars Program.