

## **Pedal Board and Pedals Purchase Proposal**

### **Project Summary:**

One of my goals coming to UVa was to expand my musical performance and guitar-playing ability through a rock band. Over the last 2 years, I have worked on this through my band *Krispies*, where I sing and play rhythm guitar. As a band, we cover a vast array of musical genres and are beginning to work on some original music as well. Over this summer, my band recommended that I start using pedals to enhance my guitar playing and sound. I had never used pedals in my playing or practicing, and was frankly a bit intimidated by the thought of them. Unfortunately, this lack of knowledge severely limited both my abilities as a guitarist and songwriter as well as the band's overall sound.

Guitar pedals are small metal boxes that filter and change the sound of an electric guitar. After doing some research this summer, I decided to invest in three essential pedals: a tuner, an overdrive pedal, and a delay pedal. Already this semester it has become clear how necessary those pedals are to cultivating the particular genres and songs we attempt to mimic. The tuner allows me to easily check if my guitar is in tune or change the tuning quickly if a song demands it. The overdrive pedal gives the guitar a bit more grit and warmth and is perfect for any blues or funk rock that we cover. The delay pedal allows me to create echoes and add spacey effects necessary for dream-like songs. However, I do not have a board to hold these pedals or any additional pedals, so transport and setup for gigs and practice is difficult and frustrating. It would be very easy for a pedal or a cord to be broken or lost. In addition, while the use of the three pedals I have now has already upgraded my playing, there is still massive room for growth.

A pedal board that can hold all of these pedals would allow me to more easily access and use the pedals that I own now. Furthermore, having the next two essential guitar pedals, reverb and distortion, would enable me to reproduce more guitar tones of songs that my band covers, as well as bolster my knowledge of pedals and their sounds. The reverb pedal would add more depth and dimension, and would fill the space on the songs where my guitar is the main harmonic component. The distortion pedal is ideal for the heavier rock songs or any soloing I might need to do to stand out from the rest of the band. This investment would also allow me to explore different *combinations* of sounds with the pedals I currently own, which in turn will provide me with more sounds to experiment with when crafting an album for my DMP next year. I believe that this investment will not only make me a better guitar player, but also a better overall musician and artist, and I would be extremely grateful for the support of Miller Arts to fund this endeavor.

Maxwell Mitchell  
 Miller Arts Scholar, Music  
 Fall 2024  
 Arts Scholars Arts Minigrants

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**Timeline:**

<i>Date</i>	<i>Objective</i>
Fall 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Receive minigrant to purchase pedal board and pedals</li> <li>- Play with band in three gigs that are already scheduled using the new pedal board and pedals</li> </ul>
Winter 2024	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Bring my pedal board home to experiment with new sounds</li> </ul>
Spring 2025	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Play with band in other gigs using the pedal board, play some originals with the band</li> </ul>
2025-2026 school year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Continue to play with band, use pedals to influence DMP album</li> </ul>

**Budget:**

<i>Item</i>	<i>Cost</i>
Pedaltrain Classic Jr SC 18"x12.5" Pedalboard with Soft Case <a href="https://www.sweetwater.com/store/detail/PTCLJSC--pedaltrain-classic-jr-sc-18-inch-by-12.5-inch-pedalboard-with-soft-case">https://www.sweetwater.com/store/detail/PTCLJSC--pedaltrain-classic-jr-sc-18-inch-by-12.5-inch-pedalboard-with-soft-case</a>	139.99
MXR M300 Digital Reverb Pedal <a href="https://www.sweetwater.com/store/detail/DigitalReverb--mxr-m300-digital-reverb-pedal">https://www.sweetwater.com/store/detail/DigitalReverb--mxr-m300-digital-reverb-pedal</a>	219.99
Pro Co RAT 2 Distortion Pedal <a href="https://www.sweetwater.com/store/detail/Rat2--pro-co-rat-2-distortion-fuzz-overdrive-pedal">https://www.sweetwater.com/store/detail/Rat2--pro-co-rat-2-distortion-fuzz-overdrive-pedal</a>	89.99
Patch Cable Pack <a href="https://www.sweetwater.com/store/detail/3PDCP06--mxr-3pdcp06-6-inch-pedalboard-patch-cable-3-pack">https://www.sweetwater.com/store/detail/3PDCP06--mxr-3pdcp06-6-inch-pedalboard-patch-cable-3-pack</a>	13.99
<b>Total</b>	<b>463.96</b>