

Claire Murphy
Miller Arts Minigrant Proposal
September 25, 2020

A Rotation in Filmmaking

For this project, I would create six short films, each with a different focus. The pieces would be a narrative short, a music video, a short “artist in the studio” documentary, a dance short, a fashion piece, and an action documentary, specifically on surfing. In each of the shorts I would be collaborating with other college students and recent graduates.

The collaboration process would start in pre-production, when I will work with each subject, discussing their work and creating a proper concept. I will then work on a storyboard and present it to the subjects, making sure that it still aligns with their vision. We will then shoot the project following social distancing guidelines. I will get the film developed and digitize it in Clemons Library. I will then work on the edits, present it to the subjects, and make final adjustments.

This project would help both the people I am collaborating with and myself. For the subjects of each piece, they will get high quality visuals to show their work that they can use to exhibit their own talents. They will have equal access to and say over the final product that I do. This project would also be a big step in my own art journey. I decided to create a “rotation” format after hearing about medical school rotations from my family members in medicine. I liked the idea of trying out different areas of a field and seeing which one is the best fit. I know that I want work with film in the future, but there are so many types of filmmaking that I have not explored yet. By creating a framework where I try six different filmmaking focuses, I believe that I will improve my cinematography skills in general and narrow my focus on film projects in the future.

I would start working with the subjects in early to mid-October. I would shoot three of the films this semester and the next three during winter break. By the end of winter break, I will send the film to the lab to be processed. At the start of the semester, I will digitize the film in Clemons and I plan to finish editing by mid-February. I recently purchased a Bolex 16mm camera so all of the money would go towards buying and developing film stock. I have two rolls of film left over from the early half of spring semester, so I have subtracted the cost of those two rolls of film from my funding request. All of the potential subjects have been contacted and confirmed their interest if funding is secured. Professor Kevin Everson will be acting as an advisor for this project.

Film 1: Artist in Studio

Subject: Maya Kim (fellow Miller Arts Scholar)

Film cost: \$0 (using left over Kodak 7219 16mm color film stock)

Development: \$30

Film 2: Fashion

Subject: Léo Zhang (UVA student)

Film cost: \$0 (using left over Kodak 7219 16mm color film stock)

Development: \$30

Film 3: Narrative Short

Subjects: Emma Simmons and Tanaka Muvavarirwa (UVA students)

Film cost: \$88 for two rolls of Kodak 7266 16mm B&W film

Development: \$44

Film 4: Action/Sport

Subject: Mary Ottley (friend from home & recent UVA grad)

Film cost: \$44 for Kodak 7266 16mm B&W film

Development: \$22

Film 5: Music Video

Subject: Jimmy Melnick (friend from home & recent JMU grad)

Film cost: \$96 for two rolls of Kodak 7219 16mm color film stock

Development: \$60

Film 6: Dance

Subject: Isoke Wright (friend from home & Point Park student)

Film cost: \$88 for two rolls of Kodak 7266 16mm B&W film

Development: \$44

Total: \$546 (I would cover the extra \$46)