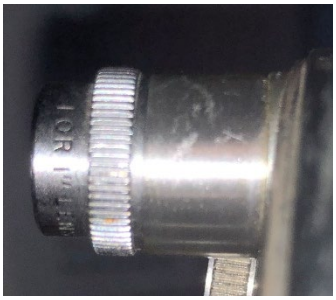
Advancing Knowledge of Analog Filmmaking

I am requesting funding through the Miller Arts Spring 2025 Minigrants to advance my knowledge of filmmaking using analog film and vintage analog cameras. My request covers the funding needed to purchase course materials for my Cinematography class as part of my Filmmaking major as well as a chance to experiment outside of my coursework using a similar medium.

Last semester, I was introduced to black and white analog filmmaking as part of my major's coursework. I have become very enthusiastic about this area of study, and this year, we are moving on to work with color film. My filmmaking course requires that we buy our own rolls of 16 mm color film as well as cover the fees for processing to complete our upcoming project, and I am seeking funding in order to help support these costs.

Additionally, I am trying to expand my knowledge of analog filmmaking beyond the resources provided to me through the University alone, where we primarily work with 16 mm film and Bolex model analog cameras. I have come to possess two vintage camera bodies, a 1953 camera from the brand Revere, which shoots 16 mm film (the same kind used in my coursework) and a Kodak Brownie model camera from the 1960s, which shoots Standard 8 mm film. I am incredibly curious to experiment with these rarer camera models, but I have been unable to shoot anything yet as the cumulative costs for film and camera accessories on top of the film I am expected to buy for class has prevented me from making any purchases. If chosen for the Minigrant, I would use the funding to purchase the materials required for me to work with color film in my Cinematography class while simultaneously experimenting with these new and different camera models. Analog filmmaking is a fascinating but cost-heavy area of study, so I am requesting support from this Minigrant in order to manage my required course costs and get a starting foothold in this niche outside of the classroom as well.

Revere Camera (Missing Lens)



Revere Viewfinder, Compatible with 25 mm C-mount lens

Kodak Brownie Standard 8 mm Camera

With the materials requested, I would complete my final class project using 16 mm color film, which is an open-ended creative short film that can be up to 10 minutes long (which would require 4 100ft rolls of film). I would also use one roll of 16 mm color film to experiment with the Revere camera using methods I learned in my first introductory Cinematography class, where we were given a list of shots to capture that fully explore the functions of an analog camera such as extremes of light and exposure, frame rate, and depth of field. One color roll would be used for a calibration of the Revere camera, so I can learn how the film reacts to each of its settings and functions. I would then complete a similar process using the 8 mm film, experimenting with the functional range of the Kodak Brownie model camera.

In order to use my Revere camera, I first need to buy a lens that matches the viewfinder it came with. The Revere camera body did not come with a lens included, which is a necessary component to shoot any film through it. The viewfinder is what the filmmaker sees through the eyepiece, and it must match the lens in order to provide an accurate image of the shot. I have included an image of my Revere viewfinder, which correlates with a 25 mm lens and uses a C-mount, the kind of screw that is compatible with the Revere model's interchangeable lens setup. Additionally, the film stock for my Kodak Brownie camera is rare to come by, and so I have done thorough research to find a reputable supplier and processor for standard 8 mm film—the Film Photography Project (FPP).

I would love to be able to build off what I have been learning in my coursework so far, and if given this opportunity, I would be able learn more about vintage analog cameras beyond the Bolex model and 16 mm film alone while also developing my creative voice through experimental filmmaking by learning to operate these new camera models and film stocks.

Timeline

Immediately Upon Receiving Funding (Mid-Late March)

- Place orders for all film rolls (16 mm and 8 mm)
- Place order for 25 mm lens for Revere Camera body

Late March

- Begin conceptualizing Final Film Project for Cinematography Class
- Shoot 8 mm BW film roll on Kodak Brownie camera and ship out for processing through FPP (1 roll, includes scanning process)

Early April

- Shoot 16 mm color roll on Revere camera and ship out for processing through Color Lab (1 rolls)

Mid-Late April

- Digitally scan processed Revere camera rolls into a shareable digital file
- Shoot Final Film project for Cinematography Class and ship out for processing through Color Lab (4 rolls) by April 22nd
- Submit Outcome Report by April 27th

Budget

16 mm – Revere Camera and Color Film		
Using color film with Bolex and Revere 16mm camera models		
5 Rolls of 16 mm, 100 ft, single perf, Kodak Color Negative Film	This is the type of film required for my Cinematography class, and it is also compatible with my Revere 16 mm camera body. The price of each roll is $44 with my student discount. **5 x $44 + $20.00 shipping = $240.00.**	$240.00
Processing fees for 5 Kodak Color Negative film rolls	Each roll needs to be processed individually and costs $22/roll to process through Color Lab, the service that we use at the University. Shipping is free for students, and we have a film scanner in the Digital Media Lab at UVA, so funding is needed only for film processing. **5 x $22.00 = $150.00.**	$110.00
25 mm C-mount lens fit for 1947 Revere 16 mm camera body	Because the model is so old, the best option is to find a 25 mm lens (compatible with my 25 mm viewfinder) with a C-mount in good used condition. I have done my best to find the most affordable option. Of the 6 potential compatible options I have found online, 4 are listed at $45.00-50.00.	$50.00
Shipping costs for 25 mm C-mount lens	The lenses I have researched are all posted by different second-hand sellers and vary in their shipping rates, so I have put the remaining funds from the $500.00 total towards shipping costs for the lens I will purchase.	$15.01
8 mm Film for Kodak Brownie Movie Camera		
Film rolls and processing for Kodak Brownie camera		
Double 8 Film - Cine8 X2 Eastman Double-X BW Negative 200 ISO (25 ft)	The only seller that reputably provides standard 8 mm film compatible with the Kodak Brownie camera model is the Film Photography Project (FPP). This is the most affordable film stock I was able to find, and I believe it would be suitable to get to know the camera model before moving on to a more expensive film stock.	$29.99
Film Processing for BW Double 8 mm Film through FPP	FPP provides a developing and scanning service on their website for a flat rate of $55/roll.	$55.00
Budget Income, Funding, or Other Awards		
Include income from private sources, the funding you're asking from Miller Arts Scholars, and income from other awards.		
Income item:	MAS Spring 2025 Artist Minigrant	$500.00
Total		$500.00

Thank you for your consideration!

Reese Robers | Miller Arts Scholar representing Studio Art (Filmmaking Concentration)

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