

PROPOSAL

I am requesting financial support to pay for the licensing rights and small technical needs to support the production. The estimated cost of the rights, performance tracks, makeup and costuming, and publicity materials is \$2,736 if selected for Lab Series, or \$3000 if selected for Spectrum Second Stage. Please view the attached budget sheet for more details.

I am proposing to direct *Tick, Tick, Boom!* in the Fall of 2025, either as a Lab Series production, or with a student group. As the President of Virginia Players, I am the leader of the Lab Series proposal team. However, the process requires a consensus among the Executive Board. Therefore, my backup is Spectrum Theatre's Second Stage program. I am the Producer of Spectrum Theatre, and the approval process for the program only requires my approval.

I have a deep passion for directing — having directed five productions since 2017, and would like to continue my development in that area through the avenue of the Miller Arts Scholars. I will consult with my faculty mentor, Dave Dalton, to ensure success. I also plan, schedule permitting, to take his directing class to supplement my work. Additionally, my project can include other Scholars, as I would be casting three actors and including a musical director. There is also an opportunity to include student technicians and designers.

This musical is extremely timely — and is about to be performed by the University of Michigan and the University of Pennsylvania. The Denver Post praised the musical as “a valentine to the creative spirit itself.” *Tick, Tick, Boom!* is the story of a young composer, Jon, struggling to make his mark in the industry while also balancing his life and relationships with his partner, Susan, and his childhood friend, Michael. The trio experience struggles with mental health, an unstable political climate, financial insecurity, and self-doubt with regards to their careers. College students and community members alike can relate to those key themes.

Tick, Tick, Boom! also boasts a critically acclaimed score, and received a Netflix adaptation in 2021. It provides a worthy challenge in terms of acting and singing. I already have interested students, including Scholars such as Carson Harter, Will Conrad, Abby Milne, and talented performers Laila Bolté, Aidan McNerney, Julian Rivera, Soren Corbett, and others who will audition or join my artistic staff.

If given funding, I plan to present the show across Grounds for \$1 tickets. Accessibility is increasingly rare in today's theatre landscape, and I aim to combat that. I would like this show to be performed in different locations throughout Charlottesville — I can provide transportation — including a free performance to bring live theatre to those who may not be able to access it. That theme connects to my roots as an artist — in 2017, I founded a program called Encore Cares to bring live theatre to those who may not be able to access it. Since then, the program has produced nine shows.

As for troubleshooting, I can confirm that I will be able to get the licensing through my Spectrum profile on MTI — because this is not a restricted title, I will not be denied. I can confirm that I will be able to find performance space through my UVA Event Management

Services account as a CIO President. I have access to significantly discounted technical equipment through my contacts at First Year Players.

Overall, I have worked on 50 productions since 2015 as an actor, director, playwright, tech member, producer, and a myriad of other roles. At the University, I have worked with the Department of Drama, Spectrum Theatre, Virginia Players, Overcranked, and First Year Players. I have ample connections, and, if given funding, can guarantee that I will assemble an extremely skilled cohort of peers to produce a successful production.

Next April, I can present my outcome to the public through an interactive presentation. I will create a poster board detailing my creative process, and have clips of the show running on my laptop for viewers to observe. If allowed, I will also invite my creative team so that viewers can ask them questions about the process. I plan to detail my directorial decisions on a particular scene or two for viewers to gain an inside perspective on how I craft a scene.

BUDGET

Miller Arts Scholars Budget					
Budget Item Category 1	LICENSING				
<i>\$2636 to Music Theatre International for the rights and recorded music materials</i>					
Rights	The ability to perform the show.				\$1,886.00
Tracks	Recorded tracks for our actors to use in performance and rehearsal.				\$750.00
Budget Item Category 2	TECH				
<i>\$264 for technical needs.</i>					
Contingency	IF NOT selected for Lab Series, this covers printing; renting props, mics, and overhead lighting from a personal contact.				\$264.00
	Printing includes publicity posters/flyers, as well as show t-shirts, which will cost an estimated \$18 each on CustomInk.				
Makeup and Costuming	Covers all makeup and costuming needs.				\$100.00
Total					\$3,000.00
Budget Income, Funding, or Other Awards					
<i>The MAS Award will cover all costs.</i>					
Income item:	MAS Third Year Award				\$3,000.00
Total					\$3,000.00

PARTICIPATION IN THE ARTS

At the University, I have participated in the arts extensively. As a Drama major, I have taken several classes with faculty including Cady Garey, Marianne Kubik, Tovah Close, Katelyn Hale-Wood, Mona Kasra, Ant Ma, Doug Grissom, and Paul Wagner. Since my first year, I have worked on 17 productions. I have worked with the Department of Drama (Actor), Spectrum Theatre (Director, Producer, Assistant Producer), Virginia Players (President, Producer, Community Chair, Artistic Director), Live Arts (Director), and First Year Players (Actor,

Publicity Chair, Social Chair, Paint, Hair & Makeup). Over the summers, I have worked as a Teaching Artist for directing, acting, vocals, and choreography at Encore Stage and Studio.

PORTFOLIO LINKS

[Example 1](#)

[Example 2](#)

[Example 3](#)

RESUME

EXPERIENCE

- 50 theatrical productions since 2015 (including directing, acting, playwriting, producing, technical work, house management, dramaturging, stage managing, choreographing, and vocal directing)

EDUCATION AND HONORS

- Drama major at the University of Virginia
- Miller Arts Scholar in Drama (2023-present)
- Taken classes at Harvard, Northwestern, and Wisconsin-Madison
- Received certificate in directing intensive at the Guthrie Theatre
- 23-star International Honor Thespian (2019-2022)
- 2019 Encore Stage and Studio STAR Award

LEADERSHIP

- Producer/President of Spectrum Theatre----- (Nov. 2024-present)
- President of Virginia Players----- (Nov. 2024-present)
- Encore Stage and Studio Teaching Artist----- (Apr. 2020-present)
- Artistic Director of Virginia Players----- (Nov. 2023-Nov. 2024)
- Assistant Producer of Spectrum Theatre----- (May 2024-Nov. 2024)
- Social Chair of First Year Players----- (Dec. 2023-May 2024)
- Publicity Chair of First Year Players----- (May 2023-Nov. 2023)
- Community Chair of Virginia Players----- (Nov. 2022-Nov. 2023)
- Founder and Executive Director of Encore Cares-- (Nov. 2016-Jun. 2022)