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Artist Minigrant Proposal

Documenting the Artistic Process—An Instant Photography Study

My name is Krista Hartmann, and I am currently a second year Echols Scholar double majoring in Studio Art and Biology. I am requesting funding from the Miller Arts Scholars Minigrant Program to support the cost of a Polaroid film project aiming to document and expose the artistic process. This project will allow me to investigate the development of my own art and to uncover how its progression relates to the final product.

Project Description

The relationship between an artist's inspiration, ideas, and creation are essential components of art that are often lost when only the final piece is exhibited. For many artists, the process of planning and making is more significant than the product. Creation permits a specific kind of solidarity and satisfaction that yields a deep personal and physical connection with one's work, but this unique value of making is often hidden behind the "finished" piece. As a creator and critique of art, I aim to expose the growth of my own work and how its development relates to myself as an artist.

A series of around 150 Polaroid photos will include images that serve to inspire, to expose my process of planning and developing ideas, and to exhibit the products of my creative process—allowing the viewer to form a connection among each component. I am particularly interested in utilizing Polaroid photography rather than digital photography because of its singularity. Each moment of creation is unique and unpredictable, as is each Polaroid photo; the images cannot be reproduced exactly as they were captured, symbolizing the fragility and quality of each idea. The artistic process consists of a collection of moments that add up to produce a final project. The photos will be displayed in a handmade book in chronological order so the artist's progression can be viewed over time, as she experienced it, rather than all at once. Each photo will be dated, and the time will also be documented to preserve each moment accurately.

My goal for this project is to document my own artistic process so I can further understand the growth of my own work and value the solidarity conserved within each step.

Schedule

I aim to document the progression of my work over the course of a month, beginning in March and finishing by the second week of April. Upon completion of the series, I will create a handmade book containing all of my photos in chronological order. I anticipate this process will take around 3 weeks, concluding the project in early May.

Budget

I will use my own Fujifilm Instax Mini 8 camera to take the photos. Minigrant funding will cover film and bookmaking supplies, as outlined below.

200 sheets Fujifilm Instax Mini Instant Film.....	\$127
Book Binder's Board.....	\$20
Book cloth.....	\$10
Indigo Artpapers Handmade Watercolor Paper.....	\$50
Canson Mi-Teintes Drawing Papers.....	\$5
Lineco neutral pH adhesive.....	\$6
Bone fold.....	\$6
Awl.....	\$5
Waxed linen thread.....	\$11
Binder's needles.....	\$7
Lineco super.....	\$9
Total.....	\$256

Thank you for your consideration.