END OF FUNDING PERIOD REPORT
LAUC Statewide Grants, Research & Professional Development Committee

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TITLE OF PROJECT: Creation of a contemporary music festivals performance database as a tool for collection development

Time Period of Grant: February 2018 is anticipated completion
Amount of Award Received: $2330
Original Abstract as Submitted:

Collection development decisions for music have always been difficult choices for music librarians; however, with the generally flat monograph budgets libraries have been contending with and the growth of sheet music being published both traditionally and non-traditionally, choosing which particular pieces of music to purchase can become extremely difficult. As one possible solution to this conundrum, the examination of performance trends at contemporary art music festivals can shed light on what music is most important to the musical community thereby helping the music librarian make purchasing decisions. In order to see these trends the data needs to be collected and compiled in one location. This project is to fund the creation of a database to hold data already collected amounting to approximately 2,500 pieces of music (which is almost 50,000 distinct points of data) from 10 years of contemporary art music festivals based in California and to allow for additional data to be collected through crowdsourcing. Before going live this database will be tested by music librarians, musicologists, and other interested musicians to determine if it is understandable and meets their needs. After testing, the database will be freely available to anyone who wishes to either contribute data or use the data for their own research purposes.

I. ACCOMPLISHMENTS and EVALUATION
- Describe what was achieved during the time period of the grant.

A good amount of work has been completed in the roughly four months of the grant. Main steps include:
- o Planning meetings with the programmer to discuss desired outcomes
- o Creation of user experience models to understand how users might potentially interact with the database
- o Creation of a beta website and database (accessible at: http://recentmusicperformancedb.com/)
- o Uploading of original core data previously collected prior to grant funding
- o Uploading of new data post-database-creation to test functionality
- o Creation of an authorized instrumentation list
- o Creation of beta tester questions and task list
- o Currently I am recruiting beta testers and plan to have their feedback by mid-June

- What aspects were completed as proposed? If your study could not be completed as proposed, explain how your plans were altered.

All aspects thus far have been completed as proposed. We need to gather feedback from beta testers to see how others react to and interact with this tool.

- Did the project accomplish what it intended? Did it make a difference?
  - Include any relevant quantitative data, if applicable (e.g. How many individuals have benefited from this project? In what way? This may include various output measures such as circulation, reference transactions, program attendance, survey responses, etc. as appropriate.)
  - Include any anecdotes, if applicable.

The project is not finished yet, so I will wait until completion to answer this.

- What would you do differently next time, if anything?

If I were to do this again I would want to have completed more understanding about database design and how relations are set up. Sometimes technical discussions with the programmer were difficult because I lacked some understanding of fine nuances. Thankfully he was patient and explained concepts simply so that we could work together towards a goal.

- What advice do you have for others applying for LAUC research grants?

Know how to work with your Business Office. All of the frustration I've encountered with this grant have come from needing to work with them and the extremely long time frame they need to get certain things done.

II. IS YOUR PROJECT COMPLETED?   Yes__   No_X_
If No, what is needed to complete the project? Is more time needed? Or more funds?

Time. Beta testers will work over the next month to provide feedback. Then I will analyze and determine if changes need to be made and work with the programmer to implement. I believe that this project will be completed earlier than the grant timeline date of February 2018.

III. FINANCIAL STATEMENT
Please explain how the funds received were spent.   Attach your original budget and indicate how well your estimates matched with actual expenditures. Receipts are not necessary.

Because I did not receive all funds that I requested I have needed to pay for a couple of items out of pocket (e.g., domain registration and RapidSSL certification). I was able to negotiate free web hosting and a reduced fee with the programmer by placing a small acknowledgement on the project webpage. The majority of funds ($1830) will be paid to the programmer and the remaining $500 is reserved for incentives for beta testers.

IV. SHARING YOUR PRODUCT/RESULTS

What are your plans for disseminating the results of your work? If it will be a web page or product, or published article or book, when will it be available to the public? Include citations/URLs if known.

The resulting product will be a web page. It will probably be available to the public in fall 2017. I am anticipating presenting it at a conference in October 2017 and possibly February 2018. The URL is: http://recentmusicperformancedb.com/

V. NOTE
Information included in this report may be reprinted or posted on the web for dissemination to UCOP, other UC Libraries, and future potential LAUC grant applicants.