



October 31, 2012

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Dear Nord Grant Selection Committee,

We write to request your consideration of our request for a **\$4000 Nord grant** to support the student-focused arm of teaching, learning, and research activities of a newly developing center in music teaching and learning. This project began with a visioning process in Summer 2012 supported by the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. Our first Center activity this fall was hosting an eminent music education scholar, Peter Webster, on campus (supported by the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences). Dr. Webster presented for two music education classes (undergraduate and graduate), the Music Dept. Colloquium, and shared meals and individual meetings with graduate students and faculty. The email below, from Master of Arts with Licensure (MAL) Music Education student David Thompson, eloquently summarizes what we hope to do with this Center.

From: David Thompson
Subject: Peter Webster
Date: October 15, 2012 10:44:07 PM EDT
To: Lisa Koops , William Bauer

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Professors,

I wanted to make sure I thanked you personally for taking the time to arrange Dr. Webster's visit this past week. The sessions were very engaging. Furthermore, I continue to consider myself extremely fortunate for attending a university that values and facilitates such fruitful activities. I can imagine an undertaking like this does not happen without considerable effort. As I'm sure you have been told many times by now, it was worth it! Please consider myself among the ranks of those who wish to see the Center grow to its full potential and are willing to help in any capacity to that end.

Dave Thompson

Purpose. The student-centered arm of the Center aims to develop a community of learners of music education students, both at CWRU and beyond, with the intent of engaging critically with music education research in order to apply it to teaching and learning music. The full Center mission is included in the attached proposal.

To accomplish this, the Center will encompass a variety of activities and areas of emphasis, including:

- A dynamic, robust web presence
- Sponsorship of regular research seminars for CWRU faculty and graduate students
- Facilitation of short-term residencies by distinguished scholars
- Outreach to PK-12 music educators, bringing research to the practice of early childhood, elementary and secondary music education
- Networking with the wider music education research community
- Research support
- Hosting research symposia/conferences.

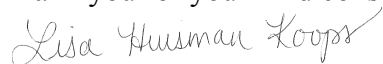
Impact on students. This center is intended to have a direct impact on CWRU undergraduate and graduate students in the following ways:

- Facilitate interactions with renowned music educators through on-campus residencies twice a year as well as scholarly conferences. Such interactions enable students to more fully apply research to their imminent careers as K-12 music educators or future careers as music teacher educators.
- Provide opportunities to participate in research-to-practice activities such as on-line media and in-person workshops, influencing development as teacher as well as future professional work. This is critical and consists of a curricular objective that is addressed in courses, but can be addressed more vibrantly through a community of learners within the Center.

Outcomes and assessment. The outcomes of the Center in 2013 will be two residencies by music education scholars, a “Popular Music in Education” conference co-sponsored by the Center for Popular Music Studies (Dr. Robert Walser, Director), six graduate music education research seminars, a teacher workshop, and the launch of a robust web site including tutorials, online journal club, curated resources, research-to-practice blog, networking tools, and more. We will assess the impact on music education students via an online survey measuring the perceived value of the activities for the students as well as recommendations by students for future programming.

Necessity for using Nord funding. We are working with Martha Gibbons, Director of Foundation Relations, to identify and apply for grants to support the center. The possibilities are few. There are no large-scale governmental foundations to which we can apply. Funding for music education research has historically been minimal. While some funds for this project are being provided by the Dean of the College and the Music Department, additional funds are needed to carry out the activities of the Center. The **\$4000 Nord grant** would provide key funding for several student-related projects throughout the coming year. Specifically, \$1000 to support a “Popular Music in Education” conference in November 2013, \$1000 to pay for student assistance (work) with coordinating the conference, \$1000 to support scholar-in-residencies, and \$1000 to support a teacher workshop for local teachers to be designed and implemented in consultation with music education students and faculty.

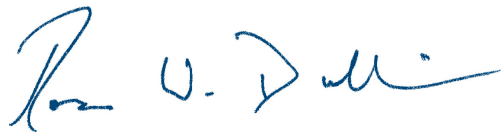
Thank you for your kind consideration,



Lisa Huisman Koops, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor Music



William I. Bauer, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Music;
Director of Music Education



Ross W. Duffin
Fynette H. Kulas Professor and Interim Chair
Department of Music