

UNIVERSITY OF LOUISIANA
AT LAFAYETTE

STEP Committee
Technology Fee Application

Software for the School of Music

Robert Willey
School of Music

Scott Landry
School of Music

Gordon Brooks
Dean, College of the Arts

Title: Software for the School of Music Date: June 1, 2010
Name (Contact Person): Robert Willey
Address: Angelle Hall
Phone Number: 482-5204 Email: willey@louisiana.edu
Department/College/Org: School of Music / College of the Arts

ABSTRACT

Four programs are requested to help students in the School of Music. Sibelius is a program used for music notation that is integrated into the industry standard Pro Tools environment. Deep Freeze will help keep laboratories and studios working more efficiently. Logic is a powerful music production program, and Smart Music helps students learn their music when no human accompanist is available.

DESCRIPTION

a. Purpose of the grant and impact to student body as a whole

The School of Music has benefited from a number of previous STEP grants to construct computing facilities. Over time software additional software becomes available that would make activity there more productive. Four programs are requested that will benefit all students.

Currently students taking the School of Music's notation class learn to use Finale, which in the past was the most powerful manuscript engraving program. In the last few years Sibelius, which is much easier to learn, has gained power and rivals Finale for use by professional copyists. It would suit our students much better, since many of them need to learn to use music notation software, and would progress faster. It is a much better choice for education students, and has in the last year been integrated into the Pro Tools environment, which is used by all music media students in our recording studios. It will be immediately incorporated into ten of the core courses in Music Media (i.e. synthesis, sequencing, recording, arranging, film scoring, recital) and be of great value in the theory sequence (required of all music students). It will make it possible to revise the curriculum, for example, to make it possible to use notation software in composing a film score which can then be performed by music students and recorded in the recording classes. Presently students create synthesizer soundtracks only, and do not learn the process of recording instruments reading from scores, which is often done in the film scoring industry. We are proposing network site licenses, which will make it possible for students to run the software in our computer classroom, Resource Center, studios, or anywhere else on campus,

Deep Freeze is a maintenance program that will make computers in the computer classroom, Resource Center, and studios work more efficiently. The purpose of the software is to restore the work environment to an optimum setting each time a computer is rebooted. Often times students change settings and leave their work in the wrong place causing the next user to have problems. This causes problems in class when a student's computer is no longer able to run a program, or a variety of discrepancies between students' configurations makes it hard to conduct class. Over time problems creep in, and since there is no IT staff in the School of Music and little support for Apple computers across campus, problems accumulate until summer vacation when one of the teachers has time to try to solve them. Each time a computer is restarted with Deep Freeze such problems are erased. This will save class time and increase productivity to computers in labs and studios, thereby maximizing the benefit of previous STEP investments. This software will be installed on each computer in the computer classroom, Resource Center, and 3 studios, and run automatically each time any one of the computers is turned on.

Logic Studio is an Apple program that is better suited to some types of projects than Pro Tools. We would like to teach students to use it as an alternative to Pro Tools. Some students use the software at home and we would like to be able to bring in their work to demonstrate in class. This software would be installed in the Recording Studio where two classes are held, and students produced their homework assignments and projects of individual interest. Students have access to the studio 24 hours a day through keypad access.

Much of the repertoire that music students learn for their private lessons include an accompaniment part, which may or may not be supplied during their lessons by an accompanist. Not every student has an accompanist, and those that do don't have the benefit of working with a live pianist during their practice time. Smart Music is a program that "listens" to an instrumentalist, follows their performance, and provides the accompaniment. This would be a great help for students studying on their own as they prepare for lessons and recitals. It would be installed in a locked practice room by leaving their ID card in the School of Music office. A microphone is needed to play into, and a small memory upgrade is requested to help the practice room's computer run better.

b. Projected lifetime of enhancement

The software should be able to be used for at least five years.

c. Person(s) responsible

i. Implementation

Dr. Robert Willey and Scott Landry will implement the software into the labs and curriculum.

II. Installation

Dr. Robert Willey and Scott Landry are experts in music technology and notation. They will install the software and hardware in the classroom, Resource Center, and studios.

III. Maintenance

Dr. Robert Willey and Scott Landry will maintain the software.

IV. Operation

Students in synthesis, recording, film scoring, jazz arranging, and theory classes will operate the software.

V. Training

Dr. Robert Willey and Scott Landry will teach students how to use the software in their classes. A link to documentation will be provided on the School of Music's website and as part of the local documentation on the computers in the Resource Center and studios.

BUDGET

1. Equipment	\$ 54.94
2. Software	\$ 3994.80
3. Supplies	\$ 0
4. Maintenance	\$ 0
5. Personnel	\$ 0
6. Other	\$ 0
<hr/>	
TOTAL	\$ 4049.74

Please see attached spreadsheet for budget details.

PREVIOUSLY FUNDED STEP GRANTS

Previous grants detailed online at <http://willshare.com/willeyrk/grants>

“Recording Microphones for Auditorium”, 1/10, \$6,940.

“Server for School of Music”, 1/10, \$5,303.

“Performing and Live Recording System”, 1/09, \$5,185.

"Recording Studio Upgrade: Developing System Input and Output", 7/08, \$11,881, provided array of microphones to increase the number of tracks that can be recorded, and to experience how microphone selection and matching with preamp affect the sound.

"CD Recording System for Angelle Hall", 1/08, \$1,350. Stereo recording setup for auditorium.

"School of Music Resource Center Upgrade", 7/07, \$21,638.

"School of Music Pro Tools Recording System", 7/06, major renovation of recording studio facility creating professional 24-track digital audio recording system, \$41,338. Created Pro Tools HD recording system, which will be compatible with the proposed system in the current grant proposal.

"School of Music Resource Center Upgrade", 7/06, software to create web sites, piano instruction, software, wireless connectivity, administration software, ethernet cabling, Reason synthesis software, \$4,657.

"School of Music Resource Center Upgrade", 1/06, upgrade software and hardware, \$6,055.

"School of Music Resource Center Upgrade", 7/05, upgrade software and hardware, \$4,055

“Resource Center Upgrade”, 1/04, upgrade workstations, server, video transfer, and DVD authoring, \$4,902.