

Miranda Henne  
Friends Meeting at Cambridge Bequest Proposal

I propose organizing and playing cello for free concerts in Cambridge, in spaces that are accessible and easily happened upon or where a need for music performance/free art exists.

Goals/To Accomplish:

To make live music performance accessible to all, regardless of ability to pay. Creating and sharing Art, which is fundamental to our spiritual and emotional health.

To change the world through good vibrations—I mean that literally.

To support Boston/Cambridge based artists who are striving to live in Cambridge during a housing crisis. I am a cellist trying to live in Cambridge: my rent doubled this year.

An additional benefit is that it would increase awareness of FMC. At performances I will let concert attendees know with an announcement or sign that FMC funded the concert (light proselytizing).

To create moments of beauty, wonder, lightness, freedom, dignity and human connection.

To provide something beautiful and meaningful that can be enjoyed together.

To draw people of different social classes to enjoy music side by side.

To give people a chance to meet their neighbors.

To inspire, uplift and perhaps even offer a feeling of awe, renewal or freedom. A moment and feeling of starting afresh.

Where?

The first three performances will be held at the Cambridge Public Library lawn, the Cambridge Common and the Charles River by the Herter Community Garden.

The process for deciding the location of performances following those three will be:

-If those performances were well-attended and positively received, I will consider hosting at those locations again.

-I will contact MAAP for ideas and input about good locations to perform.

-I will invite ideas and feedback about locations for future performances from community members at FMC by sending an email through the email list-serve or hosting a zoom meeting, which I would advertise through the list-serve.

-Here is a list of locations that I would like to and can envision performing in (or have already performed in): Springfield, MA bus station, bus stations along Mass Ave, Boston bus terminal, Cambridge Street between Harvard and Cambridge Public Library, Inman Square, Boston Public Library, Boston Common, nursing homes, MAAP, homeless shelters in Cambridge.

### What Music Will Be Performed?

Some of the concerts will be performed on solo cello and some will include other musicians. I will perform on cello (Miranda Henne) in all of the concerts.

I have included an estimate for personnel costs that include funding for other musicians to perform in some of the concerts. Musicians include:

Gregory Liszt, banjo (Banjoist of acclaimed folk band Crooked Still and Bruce Springsteen and the Seeger Sessions Band), who has agreed to perform if hired. You can hear a recording of a concert that Gregory Liszt (banjo), Mariechristine Lopez (violin) and I performed in Plainfield, VT this summer at this link: <https://www.facebook.com/mirandahennecellist/> The concert was a benefit concert for flood relief in Vermont. We also performed two other sold-out concerts in Warren, VT in August.

If budget allows, I would like to invite other local artists (for example Toussaint the Liberator and/or kora player John Hughes. I would also like to invite a violinist and a local tabla player. Tabla is an Indian classical percussion instrument).

Repertoire includes:

-Kol Nidre by Max Bruch, a famous piece written for cello based on the theme Kol Nidre, which is recited in the synagogue at the Kol Nidre service on the eve of Yom Kippur.

-Selections from The Cello Suites for Solo Cello by J.S. Bach (examples include the Prelude in G Major from Suite No. 1, Prelude in E-flat major from Suite No. 4, Sarabande in C major from Suite No. 3).

-Blue Rondo a la Turk by Dave Brubeck, arranged for cello and banjo

- The Swan by Camille Saint-Saens arranged for cello and banjo or solo cello
- Doctor Gradus Ad Parnassum by Claude Debussy, arranged for cello and banjo
- Piano Sonata No. 15 in D Major by Mozart, arranged for cello and banjo
- Anthropology by Charlie Parker, on cello and banjo
- The Bumblebee by Rimsky-Korsakov arranged for cello and banjo
- “Summer” from Vivaldi’s Four Seasons, arranged for cello and banjo, a raucous and entertaining piece
- Moonlight Sonata by Beethoven, arranged for cello and banjo
- “Joy,” a tune by the fusion band Shakti, arranged for cello and banjo
- “Bubbles,” a tune co-composed by tabla player Zakir Hussain, bassist Edgar Meyer and banjoist Bela Fleck, arranged for cello and banjo
- “¡El pueblo unido jamás será vencido!” by Sergio Ortega and Quilapayún (the Chilean Folk Song which translates to The People United Will Never Be Defeated), arranged for cello and banjo.
- Song for my Father by the Horace Silver Quartet for cello and banjo
- Rollin’ in the Deep by Adel for banjo
- Asturias by Isaac Albéniz, Spanish composer
- Original compositions
- And more!

Here are additional media links so you can hear the musicians Miranda Henne, Gregory Liszt and Mariechristine Lopez in action, together and in their own separate projects.

Greg Liszt: [https://open.spotify.com/artist/2LuJVywXTHDq51h2ZZDwtx?si=JGkRgZdeRsG4obn9f9ky\\_A](https://open.spotify.com/artist/2LuJVywXTHDq51h2ZZDwtx?si=JGkRgZdeRsG4obn9f9ky_A)

Miranda Henne: <https://soundcloud.com/mirandahenne>

How long will the concerts be?

The music 1 hour and 15 minutes to 1 hour and a half. Concerts will take place in places where it is possible to drop in and not necessary to stay for the entire event.

When?

Weekly, when the weather is nice enough to perform outside, for as many weeks running as meeting can fund. For example, 10 weeks in May, June, July and/or August.

## **I. Overview:**

Why this project now, and will it engage with or benefit the FMC community? If so, how?

Why this project? Sometimes the encounters we have with art or musical performance are so powerful that we remember them months, even years later. They may give us hope, a sense of relief or freedom, a feeling of awe or beauty. The ripples from performances can be more powerful than we know.

Why this project now? See "Goals/To Accomplish" (first page). In addition, more and more I see people looking at their phones as they walk around Cambridge. I hope to draw people to be present with each other in an encounter with art.

I will invite/inform the FMC community about performance dates and times through the list-serve and in announcements at the rise of meeting.

How will this project deepen the spiritual life of FMC and reflect its testimonies?

Equality, Community and Peace are three testimonies of Quakers. The performances aim to offer the highest level of music to a variety of people for free, increasing access to the art while building community.

How much is being requested, and what do you hope these funds will accomplish? Will you personally oversee execution or will it involve another organization or non-FMC persons? Over how many years will the funding be used?

I am requesting **\$4,500** (total) for 10 concerts, all to take place within 1 year.

Solo concerts \$300/concert (5 concerts x \$300 = \$1,500)

Duo concerts \$500/concert (5 concerts x \$500 = \$2,500)

Organization of project including planning of logistics, coordinating people, choosing music, purchasing sheet music and paying for travel costs = \$500.

See "Goals/To Accomplish" (first page).

I will personally oversee execution.

Is this a local proposal?

Yes, local to Cambridge/Boston.

## **II. Use of Funds**

Is this the only funding for this project or is it part of a larger effort?

The concerts are free.

However, at each performance I will have a sign with a link where donations can be made to fund future concerts or donations can be made to FMC.

Is it ongoing after these funds are depleted?

I hope to continue funding public concerts after these funds are depleted (see previous question).

Is this funding for a start-up, a program already up and running, or is this for an expansion?

Music has been my career since 2011. These concerts with local artists are a continuation of concerts I have been performing in the local area.

Are community members welcome to become involved and how?

Yes! Welcoming ideas around organization, locations to perform, and more!

### **III. Budget**

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