

**APPLICATION** – please follow the format provided below.

**A. Abstract:** *(100 word limit using Microsoft Word – please post word count at the end of your abstract)* Describe briefly how the funds for which you are applying will be used. If funded, the abstract will be posted to the CoTA website.

The **2017 CoTA Research Grant** funds will be used to supplement travel expenses for a MoVE (modern violin ensemble) Concert Tour promoting the forthcoming CD release: ***“MoVE Premieres: New American Works for Violin Quartet”***. The program features the premieres of commissioned works at the Katzen Arts Center of the American University Museum in Washington D.C. and DePaul University School of Music.

**Word count: 61**

**B. Proposal:** *(500 word limit using Microsoft Word – please post word count at the end of your proposal)* Describe the goals of your project / activity / conference and the areas in which your project supports the strategic goals and objectives of the unit, college and university.

**MoVE** (<http://www.modernviolinensemble.com>) is an innovative quartet of four critically acclaimed violinists committed to generating violin quartets by avant-garde established and emerging composers.

**MoVE is:**

Carolyn Stuart <http://www.brancaleonifestival.com/carolyn-stuart.html>

Janet Sung <http://janetsung.com>

Livia Sohn <http://www.liviasohn.com>

Lina Bahn [http://www.naxos.com/person/Lina\\_Bahn/271158.htm](http://www.naxos.com/person/Lina_Bahn/271158.htm)

This Concert Tour will promote the release of our first CD, ***“MoVE Premieres: New American Works for Violin Quartet”***, published and distributed internationally by Innova Recordings (“The label of the American Composers Forum”). Each work in this project focuses on an issue of social justice or the environment.

**Composers for this tour include:**

**Jonathan Berger** <http://jonathanberger.net>: *Death by Drowning* (for tenor, 4 violins, digital audio, and projected images) in honor of Eric Garner (“*I can’t breathe...*”)

**Tommy Dougherty** <https://tsdoughertycomposer.com>: *Extraordinary Instruments* (confronts gun ownership in the wake of recent violence in American history)

**Evan K. Chambers** <http://www.evanchambers.org>: *What the Trees Know* (an environmental call for the awareness of trees... their beauty, their strength, and their fragility)

**Daniel Wohl** <http://www.danielwohlmusic.com>: *Collapse* (for violin quartet and electronics) a work about chaos and confusion

**Jordan Nelson** <http://www.jordannelsonmusic.com>: *Ember I Miss You* (incorporates texts excerpted from love letters written by Eleanor Roosevelt, Oscar Wilde, and Margaret Mead, and a love poem by Gertrude Stein)

**Seung-Won Oh** <http://www.seungwonoh.org>: TBA (2018) for violin quartet

My work to promote current composers by generating and recording “new works” is parallel with USF’s vision to engage in research to “promote civic culture and the arts...through the generation, dissemination, and translation of new knowledge (i.e. “new works”)”. I am promoting the SoM and COTA “as centers for innovative methods and technologies in producing original and unique artistic experiences”. As a performer of significant current composers, recording with international partners from multiple universities, my work aligns with USF’s vision to engage in “partnerships to build significant locally- and globally-integrated university-community collaborations through sound scholarly and artistic activities...” and the mission of CoTA “to conduct scholarly and creative research” and “achieve national...recognition as a distinguished center for study, creation, and research”. The mission of MoVE to generate new music promoting awareness of social and environmental issues (each work in this project), corresponds with CoTA’s values regarding “the role and function the arts have... our human experience and the world...”. These new works further represent CoTA’s values of “production and presentation of distinctive contemporary work” and my work with collaborative musicians represents CoTA’s mission to undertake “collaborative opportunities – locally, nationally, and internationally”

**Word count: 395**

**C. Anticipated Benefits:** *(250 word limit using Microsoft Word – please post word count at the end of your anticipated benefits)* Describe the ways in which the proposed goals will be used to enhance your research and the impact/significance of the research to your discipline.

This tour broadens the national visibility of this new and innovative ensemble, to which I am a committed performing and curating member. These commissions and premieres continue to propel my career mission of generating new, avant-garde works, and deepens my connection to a society of avant-garde composers who depend on fine musicians to champion their work. The 4 artists of MoVE are each firmly established as recording artists in the field and my own recordings have been published by Albany, Bridge, Capstone, Glorious Pantheons, Ravello, and Blue Griffin labels with numerous critical accolades. This concert tour promotes a recording project which is profoundly significant to my own research agenda as a recording artist. Reviews of Katzen Museum concerts (especially involving multiple premieres/commission) are typical, resulting in further exposure for all the artists and we anticipate the customary radio and newspaper interviews. The impact/significance of this research has a ripple effect for generations, as a New Music ensemble of 4 violins is highly unusual. Typically, an ensemble of 4 violins would be slated for light-classical presentations and venues, as the majority of existing repertoire for this instrumentation is either arrangements or classical, baroque, or earlier (with a few exceptions in the romantic era). MoVE is forging an entirely new genre of avant-garde repertoire for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

**Word count: 216**