

May 13, 2026

Kyle Vanderburg
Division of Performing Arts
North Dakota State University

Dear Kyle:

On behalf of the NDSU Foundation Grants Committee, it is a pleasure to notify you that your grant application (SCORE Student Composer Opportunities with Resident Ensembles) was selected for funding from the Centennial Endowment Fund. Specifically, the committee has awarded \$5,000.00 for use as outlined in your application.

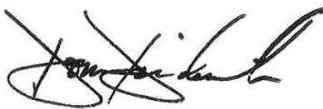
As the total dollar amount of the applications received by the Committee far exceeded the funds available for distribution, we are requesting that recipients acknowledge in writing their intent to accept this grant as soon as possible. Please forward your acceptance notification to Janna Swanson at the NDSU Foundation via email at janna.swanson@ndsufoundation.com.

To access your grant, please follow the guidelines outlined by the University system through Sponsored Programs Administration/Grants and Contract Accounting. Questions can be directed to Amy Scott, at 231-8976 or amy.scott@ndsu.edu. As a reminder, all funds must be expended prior to October 31, 2027, or they will be returned to the NDSU Foundation.

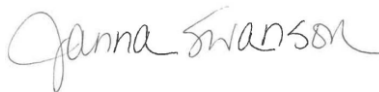
Finally, the Grants Committee requires a brief letter once you have completed the project outlined in your proposal. This letter should indicate that your grant was expended and describe the benefit or outcome of your project. Please address this to the Grants Committee and send the letter to the Attention of the Grants Committee Liaison – Janna Swanson at janna.swanson@ndsufoundation.com.

Again, congratulations on your selection!

Cordially,



Donn Diederich
Chair, Grants Committee



Janna Swanson
Grants Committee Liaison

Centennial Endowment Grant Program

A fund established by the NDSU Foundation Trustees

Grant Application Process and Timeline

The Centennial Endowment was established to support six critical areas defined within the Centennial Campaign: professorships, scholarships, biotechnology, faculty development, library, and cultural arts. Available funds provide for a maximum award of \$5,000. Total grant funds available to award in 2026 are \$25,500.

Prior to submitting your application, you must electronically route a proposal internally at NDSU through Novelution. Allow at least three business days for Sponsored Programs to receive and approve your proposal through Novelution. Once your proposal is complete in Novelution, you will be able to generate a signed cover letter through the system. The signed cover letter must be included with your application. Applications will not be accepted without a copy of the signed cover letter.

Send application with one-page vitae (as the last page) in one PDF attachment and the Sponsored Programs cover letter as a separate PDF attachment to: janna.swanson@ndsufoundation.com The completed application form and signed cover letter must be received by the Foundation office by 4:30 p.m. on March 27, 2026.

Applicants will be notified of funding decisions by May 15, 2026. Grants provided to successful applicants must be expended within 18 months of award notification.

Centennial Endowment Grant Application

Applicant Name: Kyle Vanderburg

Date Submitted: 2026-03-19

Position Title: Assistant Professor of Practice

College/Department: Arts & Sciences/Division of Performing Arts

Campus

Address: Challey Hall 209

Campus

Telephone Number: n/a

Email Address:

kyle.vanderburg@ndsu.edu

Proposal Title: SCORE — Student Composer Opportunities with Resident Ensembles

1) Briefly describe the specific activity for which you are requesting funds. Please include the date(s) of the activity.

This proposal requests support for SCORE (Student Composer Opportunities with Resident Ensembles), a new initiative designed to strengthen collaboration between composers and performers while expanding opportunities for student creative work within NDSU ensembles.

SCORE is a residency program that embeds student composers within NDSU performance ensembles to develop and premiere new works written specifically for those groups.

Through a competitive application process, two to three student composers will be selected to participate in SCORE during the 2026–2027 academic year. Each composer will be paired with a participating NDSU ensemble and will work closely with the ensemble director and performers throughout the residency. Composers will attend selected rehearsals, collaborate directly with performers during the creative process, and develop a new work tailored to the instrumentation and artistic goals of the ensemble. Ensembles that have expressed interest in participating include NDSU Opera, University Band, Wind Symphony, and chamber groups such as a brass quintet, trumpet ensemble, trombone choir, and percussion ensemble. As part of the program, a guest composer or clinician will be invited to engage with participating students through a workshop or masterclass, providing additional professional perspective on the compositional and collaborative process.

Each residency will culminate in the public premiere of a new student composition during a regular NDSU ensemble concert in Spring 2027. Performances will include brief composer introductions or pre-concert discussions that offer audiences insight into the creative process and the collaboration between composers and performers. These premieres will be recorded for documentation, archival preservation, and future recruitment and outreach materials.

Projected Timeline

September–October 2026: Announcement of SCORE program and composer application process

October 2026: Selection of participating composers and ensemble placements

October 2026–February 2027: Residency collaboration, rehearsal attendance, and composition development

March–April 2027: Rehearsals and premiere performances during ensemble concerts

April–May 2027: Recording preparation and archival documentation

The SCORE program will integrate composition students more deeply into the artistic life of the Challey School of Music while expanding the repertoire of NDSU ensembles through the creation of new works.

2) How will the proposed activity enhance your effectiveness and the academic priorities of NDSU?

SCORE's aim is to create a structured environment where student composers engage directly with performers throughout the development of new works. While collaboration opportunities between composers and ensembles can occur informally, SCORE establishes an intentional framework for this work within the Challey School of Music. Composition is inherently collaborative, and the opportunity for students to hear their music rehearsed, refined, and performed by live musicians is one of the most important learning experiences in the discipline. Embedding student composers within NDSU ensembles allows me to guide students through the full creative process while providing meaningful artistic experiences for both composers and

performers. The inclusion of a guest composer or clinician will further enrich this process by offering additional perspectives on creative practice and professional collaboration.

The program also expands experiential learning opportunities and strengthens collaboration across the Challey School of Music. SCORE complements existing composition initiatives by creating a formal and repeatable pathway for composers to work directly with ensembles in a sustained, rehearsal-based setting. Student composers gain hands-on experience working with performers, and performing students participate in the creation and premiere of repertoire written specifically for them. By formalizing these interactions, the program strengthens connections between areas of the curriculum, supporting a more integrated and collaborative artistic environment.

Finally, SCORE contributes to the cultural life of the university and the broader community through the creation and performance of new musical works. These premieres will take place on regular ensemble concerts, allowing audiences to experience music created by NDSU students while highlighting the creative work taking place within the Challey School of Music.

3) Please indicate below how you will use the funds.

Explanation	Amount
Student Composer Stipends (3 @ \$900)	\$2,700
Guest Composer/Clinician Honorarium and Workshop Support	\$1,200
Marketing, Printing, and Program Materials	\$600
Equipment and Project Support (Scores, parts, rehearsal needs)	\$500

Total Amount Requested	\$5,000
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4) Due to limited funds available for distribution, the selection committee may consider partial funding grants. To ensure the success of your project, please complete the following:

To what other funding sources have you applied for support of your project?

<u>Agency</u>	<u>Amount Requested</u>	<u>Status of Request</u>
None at this time		

The scope of SCORE is intentionally scalable. In the event of partial funding, the number of participating student composers or the level of guest clinician support can be adjusted while maintaining the core structure of the program.

A vitae of no more than one page may be attached if desired.

Only one page of submitted vitae materials will be forwarded to the selection committee.

KYLE VANDERBURG

Curriculum Vita

Relevant Teaching & Program Leadership

North Dakota State University Undergraduate Courses

MUSC 166/266/366/466: Applied Composition.

MUSC 331: Instrumental Arranging.

MUSC 385: Music Entrepreneurship.

MUSC 441/641: Symphonic Literature.

Developed & Implemented the BMus Composition degree curriculum.

Designed & Proposed Music Composition minor

Student Work & Collaboration

Supervision of undergraduate composers through project-based composition study.

Development of new works with live performers (rehearsal to revision to performance).

Integration of performer feedback into compositional process.

Coordination of student works with NDSU performers and ensembles via annual Composition Recitals.

Recent Selected Creative Activity

2026 Performance: Ars Eletronica Forum Wallis, Switzerland. (*Tempest in a Teakettle*). (Forthcoming)

Presentation: *Composition Pedagogy and the Creative Ecosystem of Lifelong Learning*. College Music Society Central Conference.

2025 Recording: *Boreas Trio*, NDSU (*Earmarks*)

Performance: Festival Supersonique 2025, Marseille, France. (*Creatures from the Black Bassoon*).

Performance: International Clarinet Association ClarinetFest®, Fort Worth, Texas. (*Theme and Conversation*).

Performance: International Double Reed Society, Indianapolis, Indiana. (*Miniwashitu*).

Performance: St. Petersburg International New Music Festival, St. Petersburg, Russia. (*Tempest in a Teakettle*).

Projects and Systems

Liszt: Collegiate music program management platform (University of Oklahoma, NDSU, Concordia).

Ives: FERPA-compliant scheduling system (Microsoft 365 integration).

Development of tools supporting coordination between composers, performers, and ensembles.

Education

2014 DMA, Music Composition. The University of Oklahoma. Norman, Oklahoma.

2011 MM, Music Composition. The University of Oklahoma. Norman, Oklahoma.

2009 BA, Music, *magna cum laude*. Drury University. Springfield, Missouri.



Letter of Intent

Sponsor: NDSU Foundation

Title: SCORE Student Composer Opportunities with Resident Ensembles

Proposed Performance Period:	08/16/2026 - 05/12/2028
NDSU Proposal Reference #:	NOV0027372
NDSU Principal Investigator:	Kyle David Vanderburg
Department:	Division of Performing Arts
PI email address:	kyle.vanderburg@ndsu.edu
Direct Cost:	\$5,000
Indirect Cost:	\$0
Total Requested US Dollars:	\$5,000.00
Committed Cost Share in US Dollars:	\$0.00

This proposal has been institutionally reviewed and approved by the appropriate administrative and programmatic officials. Should this proposal be selected for funding, NDSU reserves the right to negotiate an award with terms and conditions that are appropriate for a public institution of higher education and consistent with NDSU's policies.

NDSU's institutional administrative information is available at <https://kb.ndsu.edu/research/147269>

NDSU UEI Number: EZ4WPGRE1RD5

NDSU EIN Number: 45-6002439

Any award that results from this application should be in the legal name of North Dakota State University and emailed to ndsu.research@ndsu.edu. Please call 701.231.8045 if further assistance is required. For technical questions, please contact NDSU's PI.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "K. Vanderburg", is positioned above the title "Budget & Program Officer".

Budget & Program Officer

SPONSORED PROGRAMS ADMINISTRATION

NDSU Dept 4000 | PO Box 6050 | Fargo ND 58108 - 6050 | 701.231.8045 | Fax 701.231.8098 | ndsu.research@ndsu.edu

Shipping address: Research 1 | 1735 NDSU Research Park Drive | Fargo ND 58102