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To whom it may concern,

I wish to apply to the "Student Travel Grant" program in order to attend the ACM Multimedia conference 2014 in Orlando, Florida, USA.
I took my Bachelor of Art degree in Computer Science Engineering at the University of Florence (Italy) in 2010 with a thesis entitled "Multi-touch surface for semantic search of multimedia content", supervised by professor Alberto Del Bimbo.
I'm currently attending the second year of the Master degree in Computer Science Engineering at the University of Florence, expecting to graduate in 2015

I co-authored the following papers that were accepted for the conference. For each paper, a brief description of my contribution to the work is provided.

- "*Loki+Lire: A Framework to Create Web-Based Multimedia Search Engines*"
  G. Becchi, M. Bertini, L. Cioni, A. Del Bimbo, A. Ferracani, D. Pezzatini and M. Lux
  Open Source Competition
  I took part in the definition and development of several components of the project. I worked on the design and development of the entire front-end part of the system.

- "*A Natural and Immersive Virtual Interface for the Surgical Safety Checklist Training*"
  A. Ferracani, D. Pezzatini and A. Del Bimbo
  Workshop on Serious Games
  I took part in the definition, development and testing of the whole project. In particular, I implemented the Kinect based interactive module that allow to exploit natural interaction like gestures and voice in order to train medical skills in emergency situation.

- "*User Profiling for Urban Computing: Enriching Social Network Trace Data*"
  A. Ferracani, D. Pezzatini and A. Del Bimbo
  Workshop on Geotagging and Its Applications
  I participated in the ideation and design of system, both for the definition of the clustering methods and the technical solutions to be adopted. I supervised and took part in the development of the social network.

I am applying to the student travel grant because it would be a real growing up opportunity for my career as a researcher and for my future profession in the multimedia area. The grant would give the opportunity to present these paper and to gather really significant feedback on the work done so far.
I had the opportunity to participate and help the organizers during the ACM MM conference in 2010 in Florence and to attend as a speaker during ACM MM 2012 in Nara, Japan. The remarkable level of the presented papers and the speakers during the conference really convinced me to focus on this area of research. In particular, my research interests in these years have been HCI, social media and interactive applications.

A short resume of my professional activities is available at http://www.micc.unifi.it/pezzatini/downloads/cv-eng.pdf

Yours sincerely
Daniele Pezzatini