The GRAMMY Foundation Grant Program is funding a Queen's University psychology professor who is exploring how music can be remembered and appreciated by people with dementia.

“I’m happy to get the support of the GRAMMY Foundation. This funding allows us opportunities to pursue exciting new directions that weren’t covered from current grant support,” says Lola Cuddy, who is joined on the project by team member Jackie Duffin (School of Medicine).

Drs. Cuddy and Duffin are the only Canadians to receive funding this year from the GRAMMY Foundation.

Families and caregivers of people with dementia often observe that the capacity to enjoy and remember music remains long into the stages of the illness. Dr. Cuddy feels this has many far-reaching implications for care and treatment in dementia and for communication between loved ones. She was surprised to find practically no evidence-based research on this topic.

“Such evidence is crucial if we are truly to understand musical function in the brain and if we hope to make effective contributions to the development of care programs,” says Dr. Cuddy.

The GRAMMY Foundation grant is worth $10,000. Dr. Cuddy was previously awarded a GRAMMY grant in 2007.

The GRAMMY Foundation Grant Program gave out $100,000 in funding to 11 recipients. It was established in 1989 to help support a range of music-related research, archiving and preservation projects.