



Press release

## Ding awarded SPIE Optics and Photonics Education Scholarship

BELLINGHAM, Washington, USA – 21 May 2015 – Valerie Ding has been awarded a 2015 Optics and Photonics Education Scholarship by SPIE, the international society for optics and photonics for her potential contributions to the field of optics, photonics or related field.



Ding is a high school senior at Catlin Gabel in Portland, Oregon, and will attend Stanford University in the fall. In 2014 she worked as a Research Science Institute Scholar in the Department of Materials Science and Engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. This summer she will travel to Italy for a research fellowship at the Fondazione Bruno Kessler. She found a deep passion for solar technology in high school and was an SPIE award winner at the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair as well as an Intel Science Talent Search Finalist and Google Science Fair Global Finalist. She is excited to continue working in these fields

In 2015 SPIE awarded \$353,000 in education and travel scholarships to 126 outstanding individuals, based on their potential contribution to optics and photonics, or a related discipline. Award-winning applicants were evaluated, selected and approved by the SPIE Scholarship Committee, Chaired by SPIE volunteer Cristina Solano.

Through 2014, SPIE has distributed over \$4.5 million dollars in individual scholarships. This ambitious effort reflects the Society's commitment to education and to the next generation of optical scientists and engineers around the world.

To view press releases of the scholarship recipients as they become available go to <http://spie.org/x1737.xml>. Contact [scholarships@spie.org](mailto:scholarships@spie.org) if you have any questions. Learn more at <http://spie.org/scholarships>.

[SPIE is the international society for optics and photonics](#), a not-for-profit organization founded in 1955 to advance light-based technologies. The Society serves nearly 264,000 constituents from approximately 166 countries, offering conferences, continuing education, books, journals, and a digital library in support of interdisciplinary information exchange, professional networking, and patent precedent. SPIE provided more than \$4 million in support of education and outreach programs in 2014.

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