



Press release

Datta awarded SPIE Optics and Photonics Education Scholarship

BELLINGHAM, Washington, USA – July 8, 2019 – **Bianca Datta** has been awarded a 2019 Optics and Photonics Education Scholarship by SPIE, the international society for optics and photonics, for their potential contributions to the field of optics, photonics or related field.



Datta is a PhD candidate in the Object-Based Media group at the MIT Media Lab. She presently works on biomimetic optical structures for generating structural color, and she has previously worked on the development of holographic video devices, synthesis of quantum dots, and responsive material systems for mediated cell growth. She is also interested in scientific communication and representation for education, engagement, and wellbeing. She has previously been awarded the MIT Collamore Rogers Fellowship, and is a member of SPIE and MRS. She graduated with a BS & MS in Materials Science & Engineering at the University of Pennsylvania in 2014, and an MS in Media Arts and Sciences in 2016.

The Society awarded \$298,000 in education scholarships to 84 outstanding SPIE student members, 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 Jeremy Bos.

Through 2018, SPIE has distributed \$6 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 other 2019 press releases as they become available go to the [2019 Scholarship Winners page](#) or learn more about [SPIE scholarships](#) on [spie.org](#).

SPIE is the international society for optics and photonics, an educational not-for-profit organization founded in 1955 to advance light-based science, engineering, and technology. The Society serves 257,000 constituents from 173 countries, offering conferences and their published proceedings, continuing education, books, journals, and the SPIE Digital Library. In 2018, SPIE provided more than \$4 million in community support including scholarships and awards, outreach and advocacy programs, travel grants, public policy, and educational resources. www.spie.org.

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