



Press release

Nehring awarded SPIE Optics and Photonics Education Scholarship

BELLINGHAM, Washington, USA – June 4, 2019 – **Molly Nehring** has been awarded a 2019 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.



Nehring is an outgoing senior in high school, planning to attend the University of Colorado at Boulder (United States) to study astrophysics. “Competing in science fairs for nine consecutive years allowed me to find my passion for computational astrophysics, a branch of study relating to optics and photonics. I won several awards from SPIE for projects on Jupiter’s Galilean moons, simulating planets in multi-star solar systems, and finding evidence for two undiscovered exoplanets using Kepler Space Telescope data,” says Nehring.

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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