



Press release

McEwen awarded SPIE Optics and Photonics Education Scholarship

BELLINGHAM, Washington, USA – 3 June 2020 – **Eden McEwen** has been awarded a 2020 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.



McEwen is a rising fourth year undergraduate at the University of California, Berkeley pursuing a double major in physics and computer science. Her research interests focus on predictive control and hardware design of adaptive optics systems for ground based astronomical observing in the optical and near-infrared. She has worked with groups at Berkeley, Keck II Observatory, NASA JPL, Caltech, and the University of Hawaii's Institute for Astronomy. She is a 2020 Goldwater Scholar, a US national award recognizing undergraduate research work, and hopes to continue her studies in optics with a graduate degree in astrophysics.

In 2020, the Society is awarding \$298,000 in education scholarships to 78 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 Kate Medicus.

Through 2019, SPIE has distributed over \$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 2020 press releases as they become available go to the [2020 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 more than 255,000 constituents from 183 countries, offering conferences and their published proceedings, continuing education, books, journals, and the SPIE Digital Library. In 2019, SPIE provided more than \$5.6 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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