



Press release

Kuk awarded SPIE Optics and Photonics Education Scholarship

BELLINGHAM, Washington, USA – 4 June 2020 – **Natalia Kuk** 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.



Kuk is a first-year graduate student in the Faculty of Physics, at the University of Warsaw (Poland) where she works in the Quantum Gases Lab. Her research is focused on cold atoms and laser systems. “I am a former vice-president of the SPIE Student Chapter at the University of Warsaw thanks to whom I became familiar with the SPIE organization. I believe that the SPIE Optics and Photonics Education Scholarship will support creating the first atom interferometer in Poland,” said Kuk.

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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