



Press release
5 June 2023

Gonzalez-Hernandez awarded SPIE Optics and Photonics Education Scholarship

BELLINGHAM, Washington, USA — **Diana Gonzalez-Hernandez** has been awarded a 2023 Optics and Photonics Education Scholarship by SPIE, the international society for optics and photonics, for potential contributions to the field of optics, photonics, or related field.



Gonzalez-Hernandez received her master's degree through the Erasmus Mundus EUROPHOTONICS program, working with the laser nanophotonics group at Vilnius University's Laser Research Center. She is currently pursuing her PhD in Bioscience at King Abdullah University of Science and Technology (KAUST, Saudi Arabia) as a recipient of the Al-Khwarizmi KAUST Fellowship under the guidance of Professor Carlo Liberale. Gonzalez-Hernandez's specialization lies in designing and fabricating intricate 3D micro-optical elements using two-photon lithography, with applications ranging from telecommunications to biology. Her research focuses on developing novel micro-structures for beam shaping and polarization control of optical fibers for biophotonics. "Receiving the SPIE scholarship is an honor," Gonzalez-Hernandez said. "This scholarship serves as a powerful motivation for students like me to keep innovating in photonics."

In 2023, the Society is awarding \$293,000 in education scholarships to 72 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 Senior Member Brian Primeau.

Since the program began, SPIE has distributed more than \$7 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 2023 scholarship press releases as they become available, please visit the [2023 Scholarship Winners page](#) or learn more about [SPIE scholarships](#) on spie.org.

SPIE, the international society for optics and photonics, brings engineers, scientists, students, and business professionals together to advance light-based science and technology. The Society, founded in 1955, connects and engages with our global constituency through industry-leading conferences and exhibitions; publications of conference proceedings, books, and journals in the SPIE Digital Library; and career-building opportunities. Over the past five years, SPIE has contributed more than \$22 million to the international optics community through our advocacy and support, including scholarships, educational resources, travel grants, endowed gifts, and public-policy development. www.spie.org.

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