



Press release  
8 June 2023

## Sikstrom awarded SPIE Optics and Photonics Education Scholarship

BELLINGHAM, Washington, USA — **Lee Sikstrom** 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.



Sikstrom is a first year MSc student at Western University (Canada). Working under the supervision of Dr. David Holdsworth, Sikstrom is developing a method to measure the amount of pressure applied to tissue by using the optical signals from photoplethysmography. “Ultimately, the goal of my research is to develop a method for neurosurgeons to measure the amount of pressure they are applying to the brain so that healthy tissue is not injured during surgery,” said Sikstrom. “I would like to thank SPIE for supporting my research with this award.”

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](http://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](http://www.spie.org).

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