



Press release  
24 May 2024

## Jordan Baker awarded a Women in Optics Scholarship

BELLINGHAM, Washington, USA — **Jordan Baker** has been awarded a 2024 Women in Optics Scholarship by SPIE, the international society for optics and photonics, and Optimax for potential contributions to the fields of optics, photonics, or engineering.



Baker is a PhD student at Montana State University (USA) in the Nano-Optics group under the direction of **Professor Wataru Nakagawa**. Her research focuses on the simulation, fabrication, and optical characterization of polarization-sensitive nanostructures. Her broader technical interests include novel metasurface applications, space-borne optical instruments, and exploring the intersection between the two.

“I am very grateful to receive this scholarship, as it will equip me with tools that are valuable for my current research and beyond,” said Baker. “I also thank all the people who have supported me as a woman in STEM; I owe much to you.”

This month, the Society is awarding \$303,000 in scholarships to 72 outstanding SPIE Student Members, based on their potential contribution to optics and photonics, or a related discipline. Successful applicants were evaluated, selected, and approved by the SPIE Scholarship Committee, chaired by **SPIE Senior Member Brian Primeau**.

Since this program began in 1978, SPIE has distributed more than \$7.5 million dollars in individual scholarships. This ambitious effort reflects the Society's commitment to education as well as to the future generations of optical scientists and engineers around the world.

To view other 2024 scholarship press releases as they become available, please visit the [2024 Scholarship Recipients 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 \$24 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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