



Press release
24 May 2024

Stevens Shea awarded an SPIE Optics and Photonics Scholarship

BELLINGHAM, Washington, USA — **Stevens Shea** has been awarded a 2024 Optics and Photonics Scholarship by SPIE, the international society for optics and photonics, for potential contributions to optics, photonics, or a related field.



Shea is a PhD student in electrical and computer engineering at Montana State University (USA), where he recently completed his master's in optics and photonics. At Montana State University, he works in the Optical Remote Sensor Laboratory under the supervision of Dr. **Joseph A. Shaw** where he primarily develops polarized lidars. For his master's focus, Shea used polarized airborne time-of-flight lidar to assess water quality in freshwater ecosystems. His future work will focus on the development of a novel polarimetric coherent lidar system used for material classification.

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.

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.

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