



Press release  
28 May 2025

## Parul Sharma awarded an SPIE Optics and Photonics Scholarship

BELLINGHAM, Washington, USA — **Parul Sharma** has been awarded a 2025 Optics and Photonics Scholarship by SPIE, the international society for optics and photonics, for potential contributions to optics, photonics, or a related field.



Sharma is a doctoral student at the Laboratory of Optics of Quantum Materials at the Indian Institute of Technology in Bombay, where she is researching exceptional point physics in non-Hermitian systems across the visible and terahertz regimes. Her work specifically explores their potential technological applications, such as ultra-sensitive sensors and asymmetric light transmission. “I sincerely thank SPIE for this prestigious scholarship,” said Sharma. “It is a tremendous encouragement. I am especially grateful to Professor **Anshuman Kumar** for his invaluable guidance, and to my lab members, family, and friends for their constant support. This recognition inspires me to delve deeper into photonics and to contribute meaningfully to the field.”

This month, the Society is awarding \$323,000 in scholarships to 74 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 2025 scholarship press releases as they become available, please visit the [2025 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, we have invested more than \$25 million in 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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