



Press release
28 May 2025

Jasper Stackawitz awarded the Teddi Laurin Scholarship

BELLINGHAM, Washington, USA — **Jasper Stackawitz** has been awarded the 2025 Teddi Laurin Scholarship by SPIE, the international society for optics and photonics, for potential contributions to optics, photonics, or a related field.



Stackawitz is a junior at Pennsbury High School in Pennsylvania in the United States. He began his research in photonics at Ursinus College with Dr. **Casey Schwarz**, focusing on the fabrication and properties of thin Sb_2Se_3 and $\text{Ge}_2\text{Sb}_2\text{Te}_5$ films and their potential applications in imaging technologies. This summer, he will dive deeper into the properties of such optical phase-change materials (PCMs) through a nanophotonics project he is leading at Stony Brook University's Garcia Center for Polymers at Engineered Interfaces.

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.

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.

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