



Press release

## Elsayed awarded SPIE Optics and Photonics Education Scholarship

BELLINGHAM, Washington, USA – 1 June 2021 – **Mohamed Elsayed** has been awarded a 2021 Optics and Photonics Education Scholarship by SPIE, the international society for optics and photonics, for his potential contributions to the field of optics, photonics or related field.



Elsayed is a PhD student in the Institute of Biomedical Engineering at the University of Toronto (Canada), under the supervision of Prof. Aaron Wheeler. His research is in the field of optoelectrofluidics. He is developing cell sorters specifically for isolating rare cells by integrating optoelectronic tweezer technology with microfluidics.

“Optoelectronic tweezer technology uses dynamic light patterns to generate dielectrophoresis forces that can manipulate cells and other micrometer-sized objects,” said Elsayed. “The projects I am working on involve strong collaboration with experts in various fields, including photovoltaics, artificial intelligence, machine vision, stem cells and forensics.”

In 2021, the Society is awarding \$298,000 in education scholarships to 78 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 volunteer Kate Medicus.

Through 2020, SPIE has distributed over \$6 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 2021 press releases as they become available go to the [2021 Scholarship Winners page](#) or learn more about [SPIE scholarships](#) on [spie.org](#).

SPIE is the international society for optics and photonics, an educational not-for-profit organization founded in 1955 to advance light-based science, engineering, and technology. The Society serves more than 255,000 constituents from 183 countries, offering conferences and their published proceedings, continuing education, books, journals, and the SPIE Digital Library. In 2020, SPIE provided more than \$5 million in community support including scholarships and awards, outreach and advocacy programs, travel grants, public policy, and educational resources. [www.spie.org](http://www.spie.org)

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