



Davidson Institute
Fellows Scholarship

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**NEW YORK TEENS RECEIVE NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS FOR UNMATCHED
ACHIEVEMENTS IN SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH**

**Patryk Dabek and Owen Dugan each to be awarded \$10,000
as 2021 Davidson Fellow Scholarship Winners**

New York – The Davidson Fellows Scholarship Program has announced the 2021 scholarship winners. Among the honorees are 18-year-old Patryk Dabek of East Rutherford, N.J. and 18-year-old Owen Dugan of Sleepy Hollow, N.Y. Only 20 students across the country to be recognized as scholarship winners each year.

“I am incredibly honored to be named a Davidson Fellow,” said Dabek. “While I have always been able to extract joy from my research, this distinction from the Davidson Institute is special to me because it unites me with other gifted students and provides me with a stage to share my findings.”

For his project, Dabek wanted to find an alternative to the highly aggressive chemotherapy treatment for cancer. His research showed that by selectively halting a key component of cancer metabolism, cancer cells can be selectively targeted without harming normal cells, a positive first step for an effective therapy for cancer patients.

“I am honored to be a Davidson Fellow, to have my work nationally recognized, and to join the Davidson Fellows’ community,” said Dugan.

For his project, Dugan developed several new techniques to improve and expand the scope of OccamNet, a new interpretable neural network architecture, with the goal of increasing adoption of interpretable and reliable machine learning techniques.

“The 2021 Davidson Fellows Scholarship recipients have risen the challenges of a global pandemic to complete significant projects within their fields of study,” said Bob Davidson, founder of the Davidson Institute. “To be awarded this recognition, these students have shown immense skill and work ethic, and they should be commended as they continue their educational and research journeys while continuing to work to solve some of the world’s most vexing problems.”

The 2021 Davidson Fellows will be honored during a virtual ceremony in September 2021.

The Davidson Fellows Scholarship program offers \$50,000, \$25,000 and \$10,000 college scholarships to students 18 or younger, who have completed significant projects that have the potential to benefit society in the fields of science, technology, engineering, mathematics, literature and music. The Davidson Fellows Scholarship has provided more than \$8.6 million in scholarship funds to 386 students since its inception in 2001, and has been named one of the

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most prestigious undergraduate scholarships by [U.S. News & World Report](#). It is a program of the Davidson Institute, a national nonprofit organization headquartered in Reno, Nev. that supports profoundly gifted youth.

About the Davidson Institute

Founded by Bob Davidson in 1999, the Davidson Institute recognizes, nurtures and supports profoundly intelligent young people, and provides opportunities for them to develop their talents to make a positive difference. The Institute offers support through a number of programs and services, including the Davidson Fellows Scholarship and the [Davidson Academy of Nevada](#). For more information about the 2021 Davidson Fellows, please visit: DavidsonGifted.org/gifted-programs/fellows-scholarship

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High-resolution photos are available at www.davidsongifted.org/gifted-programs/fellows-scholarship