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## **EULESS TEEN AWARDED \$10,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR HIS PROJECT ON TOPOLOGICAL ENTROPY OF SIMPLE BRAIDS Luke Robitaille Named A 2022 Davidson Fellows Scholarship Winner**

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Eules, Texas – The Davidson Fellows Scholarship Program has announced the 2022 scholarship winners. Among the honorees is 18-year-old Luke Robitaille of Eules. Robitaille won a \$10,000 scholarship for his project, *Topological Entropy of Simple Braids*. He is one of only 21 students across the country to be recognized as a 2022 scholarship winner.

“I greatly appreciate that the Davidson Institute provides such generous scholarships to me and to students like me doing outstanding work,” said Robitaille. “I am grateful that, in our modern society, there are still institutions left dedicated to encouraging students at the highest academic level.”

For his project, Robitaille studied the mathematical objects called braids, which are formed from strands that intertwine and “mix”. His project theorized that as the number of strands increase, almost all of the braids with a given number of strands give a “chaotic” mixing. While his project is in pure mathematics, his findings could have real-world impacts in science for the mixing of fluids.

Robitaille will be a first-year student at Massachusetts Institute of Technology in the fall where he plans to study mathematics, linguistics and physics. In his free time, Robitaille enjoys math contests, singing in his church choir, assembling puzzles and playing chess.

“This year’s class of Davidson Fellows Scholarship recipients continue to find new and innovative ways to pursue their educational and research journeys while striving to solve some of the world’s most vexing problems,” said Bob Davidson, founder of the Davidson Institute. “These students have not just overcome the challenges of doing significant work during a pandemic; our Fellows have embraced the new opportunities that have come from creative, outside-the-box thinking to use technology to expand their networks of mentors and access new sources of information and data, resulting in a very diverse portfolio of projects.”

The 2022 Davidson Fellows will be honored during a reception at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and with a virtual project presentation ceremony in September 2022.

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 \$9 million in scholarship funds to 407 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 2022 Davidson Fellows, please visit: [DavidsonFellows.org](#).

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*High-resolution photos are available at*  
[DavidsonFellows.org](#)