



Davidson Institute
Fellows Scholarship

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**PITTSBURGH TEEN AWARDED \$25,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR
DEVELOPING INNOVATIVE MICROBIAL-BASED BANDAGE TO PREVENT
BACTERIAL SYSTEMIC INFECTIONS**
Daniel Levin Named 2023 Davidson Fellows Scholarship Winner

Pittsburgh – The Davidson Fellows Scholarship Program has announced the 2023 scholarship winners. Among the honorees is 18-year-old Daniel Levin of Pittsburgh. Levin won a \$25,000 scholarship for his project, *Controlling Vancomycin Resistant Staphylococcus aureus with Electroactive Bacterial Cellulose-Carbon Nanotube Composites*. He is one of only 21 students across the country to be recognized as a 2023 scholarship winner.

“Being named a Davidson Fellow fills me with an overwhelming sense of honor and gratitude,” said Levin. “It’s truly humbling to receive this recognition and be counted among such remarkable peers.”

Inspired by his passion for the dynamic relationship between bacteria and humans, Levin developed a conductive and customizable bandage out of a microbial-based material that blocks pathogenic bacteria from forming to prevent systemic infection. The bandages deliver imperceptible electric currents, driving chemical reactions that are harmful to deadly pathogens but safe for humans. This innovative approach to treating infections could revolutionize the medical field, and provide a new line of defense against some of the most dangerous bacterial threats.

Levin is a first-year student at Duke University, where, as an Angier B. Duke Scholar, he plans to pursue a double major in chemistry and biophysics. He aspires to pursue an M.D./Ph.D., focusing on the mechanisms behind microbial pathogenesis, and advancing treatments for infectious diseases. In addition to his academic achievements, Levin actively gives back to his community by leading a human rights advocacy club, and in his free time, he enjoys biking, kayaking, skiing and volunteering with local organizations striving for social justice.

“We are proud to announce this year’s class of Davidson Fellows Scholarship recipients who have completed significant projects with the potential to benefit society in the fields of science, technology, engineering, mathematics, literature, and music,” said Bob Davidson, founder of

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the Davidson Institute. “The innovations and new thinking added by each class of Fellows serve as an inspiration for future scholars to apply novel technologies and groundbreaking ideas to solve the world’s most difficult problems.”

The 2023 Davidson Fellows will be honored during a reception at the Smithsonian National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C. and with a virtual project presentation ceremony in September 2023.

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 \$9.4 million in scholarship funds to 428 students since its inception in 2001, and has been named one of the 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 2023 Davidson Fellows, please visit: [DavidsonFellows.org](#).

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