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HILLSBORO TEEN AWARDED \$25,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR DEVELOPMENT OF NOVEL METHOD TO CORRECT COLOR VISION DEFICIENCY

Vladimir Mamchik Named 2023 Davidson Fellows Scholarship Winner

Portland, Ore. – The Davidson Fellows Scholarship Program has announced the 2023 scholarship winners. Among the honorees is 17-year-old Vladimir Mamchik of Hillsboro. Mamchik won a \$25,000 scholarship for his project, *Dynamic Extraocular Filtering: A Novel Method for Active Correction of Color Vision Deficiency, validated with Steady–State Visual Evoked Potentials*. He is one of only 21 students across the country to be recognized as a 2023 scholarship winner.

"I am extremely grateful to have been named a Davidson Fellow this year," said Mamchik. "It is an incredible honor to join such an inspiring group of young people, and I hope to use this opportunity to continue my research and advocate for the advancement of vision care."

Color vision deficiency, commonly known as color blindness, affects over 400 million people worldwide. Motivated by his personal experience and the lack of effective correction methods, Mamchik developed a fundamentally new method of correction. Using an active filter to dynamically control the wavelength spectrum reaching the retinal photoreceptors, he achieved a significant increase in color contrast perception. His method represents a potential new clinical standard for color vision correction that could enhance the lives of those with color vision deficiency.

Mamchik is a first-year student at Stanford University where he plans to major in human biology with a focus on neuroscience, aspiring to a career as an ophthalmologist and vision neuroscience researcher. In his leisure time, Mamchik enjoys playing piano, clarinet, and alto saxophone, volunteering at his local library and with Meals on Wheels, and participating in Chess Club and Mock Trial.

"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 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>U.S. News & World Report</u>. 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 <u>Davidson Academy of Nevada</u>. For more information about the 2023 Davidson Fellows, please visit: <u>DavidsonFellows.org</u>.

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High-resolution photos are available at <u>DavidsonFellows.org</u>