



Davidson Institute
Fellows Scholarship

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**SAN RAMON TEEN AWARDED \$25,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR
INNOVATIONS IN METAL ORGANIC FRAMEWORKS FOR IMPROVED
CARBON CAPTURE**
Neel Redkar Named 2023 Davidson Fellows Scholarship Winner

San Francisco – The Davidson Fellows Scholarship Program has announced the 2023 scholarship winners. Among the honorees is 18-year-old Neel Redkar of San Ramon. Redkar won a \$25,000 scholarship for his project, *CarbNN: A Novel Active Transfer Learning Neural Network To Build De Novo Metal Organic Frameworks (MOFs) for Carbon Capture*. He is one of only 21 students across the country to be recognized as a 2023 scholarship winner.

“To me being a Davidson Fellow means being able to interact with and be friends with other amazing creators, working together to make the world a better place,” said Redkar.

For his project, Redkar designed a novel biology-inspired neural network to identify a Metal Organic Framework that was more conversion-efficient, consumed less energy, and cost significantly less than existing MOFs. Redkar’s MOF has the potential to create a closed carbon loop, pulling hydrocarbons from the air, and using them in gas appliances. This breakthrough paves the way for a carbon-neutral future with far-reaching implications for humanity and the environment.

Redkar is a first-year student at the University of California Los Angeles, where he plans to double major in philosophy and computer science. Outside of his academic pursuits, Redkar is an active participant in Policy Debate and leads his local Hack Club to foster a spirit of creativity and innovation among students. Redkar’s diverse interests also include athletics, musical endeavors, and community volunteering.

“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.”

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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](#)