



Davidson Institute
Fellows Scholarship

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BAY AREA TEENS AWARDED \$175,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS FOR ACHIEVEMENTS IN SCIENTIFIC, MATHEMATICS AND TECHNOLOGY RESEARCH

Hannah Cairo Awarded \$100,000 Laureate Scholarship

Ethan Yan Awarded \$50,000 Scholarship

James Gu Awarded \$25,000 Scholarship

SAN FRANCISCO — Three Bay Area teens have been named 2025 Davidson Fellows, one of the nation's most prestigious honors for students 18 and younger. Hannah Cairo of Berkeley, Ethan Yan of Burlingame, and James Gu of Newark will share \$175,000 in scholarships as part of the program's 25th anniversary year, which is awarding a record \$825,000 to 21 students nationwide.

Hannah Cairo, 18, of Berkeley — \$100,000 Laureate Scholarship, Mathematics
Cairo, an incoming Ph.D. student at the University of Maryland, disproved the Mizohata-Takeuchi conjecture, a long-standing theory in harmonic analysis — a branch of mathematics that studies the behavior of waves. She showed that certain wave patterns, once thought to occur only along lines, can appear in more varied forms, expanding understanding in a field with applications in telecommunications, biomedical imaging and data compression.

“I am honored to become a Davidson Fellow,” Cairo said. “The scholarship will open doors for me and allow me to spend more time on research.”

Ethan Yan, 16, of Burlingame — \$50,000 Scholarship, Science
Yan, a rising junior at Groton School in Groton, Mass., created ALlocate, a low-cost, AI-powered microscope add-on that detects acute myeloid leukemia cells from standard slides without expensive equipment. Achieving expert-level accuracy in testing, the \$100 system is now being distributed to hospitals to speed diagnosis in underserved regions.

“I have been inspired by the work, commitment and impact of many previous Davidson Fellows and am excited to join this community of innovators,” Yan said. “Being named a Fellow is a meaningful affirmation that the efforts of young researchers can have a tangible effect on society.”

James Gu, 18, of Newark — \$25,000 Scholarship, Engineering
Gu, a first-year student at Stanford University, developed MLPA, a “digital twin” of cancer that uses medical, genetic and imaging data to model disease progression and test personalized treatments virtually. His framework could help doctors choose the most effective therapies and anticipate complications earlier.

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“Being named a Davidson Fellow is a deep honor,” Gu said. “It’s not just a scholarship; it’s recognition that high school students can produce research with real-world relevance.”

“For 25 years, the Davidson Fellows Scholarship has recognized some of the most remarkable research undertaken by young people in the nation,” said Bob Davidson, founder of the Davidson Institute. “The 2025 class of Fellows continues to raise the bar for achievement as we celebrate this milestone year, marked by innovation, perseverance and the hundreds of alumni whose work continues to make a lasting difference in their fields and communities.”

The Davidson Fellows Scholarship program offers 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 \$10.7 million in scholarship funds to 469 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 2025 Davidson Fellows, please visit: [DavidsonFellows.org](#).

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