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## **MINNEAPOLIS TEEN AWARDED \$25,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR SOFTWARE TO COMBAT AI-GENERATED IMAGES Huxley Westemeier Named 2025 Davidson Fellows Scholarship Winner**

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MINNEAPOLIS — Huxley Westemeier, 17, of Minneapolis, has been awarded a \$25,000 Davidson Fellows Scholarship for his technology project, *Integrity: Generalized Artificial Image Classification with Noise Domain Localization*. The Davidson Fellows Scholarship is one of the nation's most prestigious honors for students 18 and younger. Westemeier's award is part of the program's 25th anniversary year, which is granting a record \$825,000 to 21 students nationwide.

"I am profoundly honored to be selected as a Davidson Fellow and am proud to be a member of this incredible community of driven young people working to make a positive global impact," Westemeier said. "This opportunity has offered me validation that my algorithm has potential and is inspiring me to continue further research."

For his project, Westemeier created *Integrity*, a software tool that detects whether an image is authentic or AI-generated. Unlike traditional AI detectors that look for markers of artificialness, *Integrity* analyzes the unique "fingerprint" left by real photographs to verify authenticity. The lightweight tool can run on nearly any device without an internet connection, and it can also identify manipulated sections of an image, such as edits or removals. Tested on multiple datasets, *Integrity* achieved more than 93% accuracy on deepfake images and 100% accuracy on authentic photos.

A rising senior at St. Paul Academy and Summit School, Westemeier was named a 2025 ISEF Finalist, where he won a second-place Grand Award in Systems Software and multiple first-place Special Awards. He has also been selected to represent the United States at the 2026 Taiwan International Science Fair. Outside of research, he is a varsity fencer, musician, filmmaker, crocheter and sailing instructor, and he volunteers with the Silverwood Teen Arts Council and Twin Cities Blind Sailing.

"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

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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](#)