



Davidson Institute
Fellows Scholarship

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PORTLAND TEEN AWARDED \$10,000 SCHOLARSHIP FOR INNOVATION IN EARLY DIAGNOSIS AND PREVENTION OF HOSPITAL-ACQUIRED INFECTIONS

Samyak Shrimali Named 2023 Davidson Fellows Scholarship Winner

Portland, Ore. – The Davidson Fellows Scholarship Program has announced the 2023 scholarship winners. Among the honorees is 18-year-old Samyak Shrimali of Portland. Shrimali won a \$10,000 scholarship for his project, *CareHAI: A Novel Automated Artificial Intelligence and Sensor-Based Multi-Modular System for Early Diagnosis and Prevention of Hospital-Acquired Infections*. He is one of only 21 students across the country to be recognized as a 2023 scholarship winner.

“I am truly honored to be named a 2023 Davidson Fellow,” said Shrimali. “This recognition validates the hard work, passion, and dedication I’ve put into my research journey. I’m extremely excited to meet and connect with other outstanding Fellows who share the same drive for exploration and innovation in STEM.”

Following an experience when his mother contracted a hospital-acquired infection (HAI), Shrimali began the process to develop CareHAI. The two-part automated system consists of the HAI Prevention Tool that uses an AI-powered IoT (Internet of things) device to track and enforce hand hygiene compliance in healthcare facilities and the HAI Early Diagnosis Tool that uses advanced machine learning to accurately detect HAIs earlier by drawing insights from dynamic patient data and medical history. His project not only contributes to the prevention of these infections but also allows for their early detection and treatment, with the potential to save lives and improve patient care.

Shrimali is a first-year student at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign, majoring in computer science. In addition to his research, Samyak is also involved in various community and STEM activities, and running a nonprofit initiative called Sanjeevani. In his free time, Shrimali enjoys playing basketball, exploring new places, and playing the piano.

“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](#)