



2024 MECHANICAL ENGINEERING SCHOLARSHIP DONORS



DAVID A. BROWN FELLOWSHIP IN MECHATRONICS



Khermbunna Sim

I received my bachelor's degree in Chemical Engineering from San Jose State University. I have been actively involved in the local professional ASME section, volunteering since 2017, and ultimately the treasurer, which have honed my leadership and teamwork skills. Initially, I decided to pursue my master's degree in Mechanical Engineering to gain more knowledge about FEA and design from exposure while working in the aerospace industry. Now, my master's degree has evolved into an emphasis on mechanics and creating a physical therapy device for arthritis patients with my controls, machine learning, and biomechanics skills. My main passion is researching about sensors and integrating them into my projects.



Elizabeth Bremberg

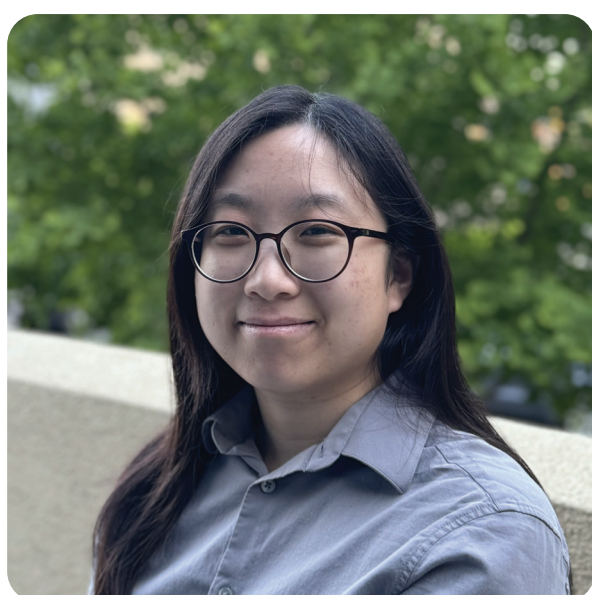
I am a Mechanical Engineering student with a concentration in Mechatronics and a minor in Robotics. Growing up in Silicon Valley, I was surrounded by opportunities in STEM, which increased my interest in related fields. Ultimately, my experiences on the Space Cookies VEX Robotics Team drove my choice in a major and potential career path. The six years I spent competing and participating in the troop fostered my love of engineering and mentorship, as well as as passion for equal-representation advocacy in STEM. Today, I continue my advocacy for women and underrepresented individuals in STEM through my STEM sorority, the Beta Upsilon Chapter of Alpha Omega Epsilon. My current favorite project to assist students with is their robotics project, which utilizes the VEX robotics platform, the same platform which helped to spark my love of robotics.

FRANCIS HUANG MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP



Luke Randhawa

I am a third year undergraduate in Engineering. I grew up in Livermore CA, with an older brother and a younger sister. Outside of school, I read and play games. My favourite book series is The Stormlight Archives. I play both flute and piccolo and have been a part of the Spartan Marching Band for three years now. I plan on going to graduate school after my undergraduate degree is completed. Once I finish school, I plan to work on spacecraft or launch vehicles.

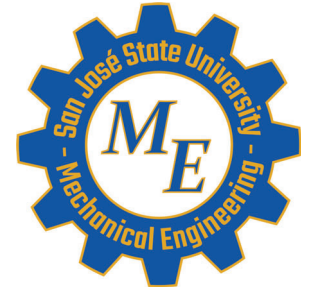


Melissa Zhang

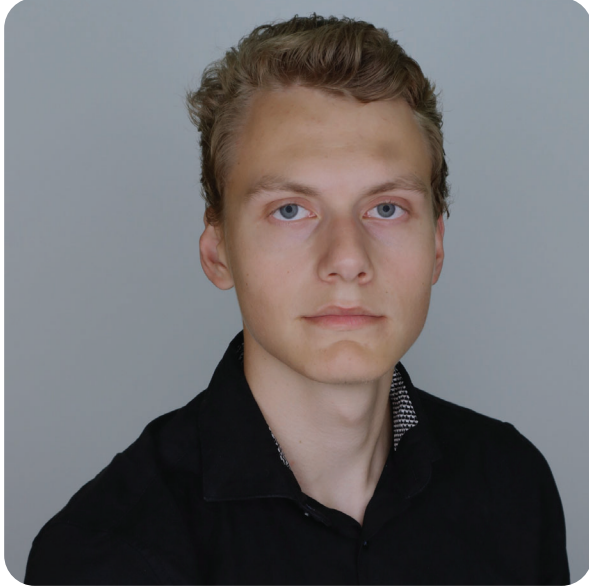
My parents have always encouraged my siblings to learn and love STEM, but I never truly understood why math and science were so important. That was until I joined my high school's FIRST Robotics team. Having the opportunity to learn about engineering, it pushed me to choose Mechanical Engineering at SJSU. Here, I was able to continue getting more hands-on experience and access to Silicon Valley companies. During my time at SJSU, I contributed to Spartan Racing, where I honed my engineering skills through hands-on experience in designing suspension and drivetrain systems for combustion and electric cars. As of now, I am currently working on my Robotics minor, and am looking into different fields that I could enter such as the biotech, automotive, robotic, energy, or sustainability industries.



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ME GRADUATE OF THE YEAR AWARD



Igor Morozov

Born in Moscow, Russia, I came to the United States with my parents at age 7 and have lived in the Bay Area since. From a young age, I've been passionate about math, and in high school, I started taking community college courses that transformed my passion for math into a passion for Mechanical Engineering, which brought me to SJSU. Here, I discovered my favorite subjects in thermodynamics, fluid mechanics, and heat transfer, and the joy of analysis and design within the elegant and robust framework of energy conservation. While I've found opportunities to explore a broad range of subjects through coursework, projects, and research, thermal hydraulic systems remain my primary interest. I aim to apply my gained knowledge and experience towards developing energy systems of the future, and finding solutions to technical challenges no one has tackled before.

ME ENDOWMENT SCHOLARSHIP



Miguel Sanchez

I was introduced me to the vast field of Mechanical Engineering through my continuing growing interest in the automotive world and culture. I was specifically drawn to how cars can be manufactured and improved through innovation and testing. I have a deep love for modified cars especially having my own project car which I modify myself, and spending more time in the car scene of San Jose only grows my passion. I am Mexican-American and Spanish is my first language. My parents are from Oaxaca, Mexico, and they both migrated here to the states when they were both still in their teenage years. Being able to grow up and see my parents overcome many life obstacles and challenges in their lives is what shaped my mindset to take on the variety of obstacles and challenges that come with going to college and working internships.

VETERANS SCHOLARSHIP



Jake Holtz

I am a veteran of the US Air Force and a first-generation college student. After serving six years, including three deployments to the Middle East as an Aerospace Propulsion Jet Troop on MC-130H aircraft, I decided to pursue my passion for science and technology by becoming a mechanical engineer. Here, I have had the pleasure of meeting amazing people who have helped make my dream a reality. As a late-in-life student returning to school after an academic hiatus, the journey can be challenging. However, I am incredibly fortunate to have the support of the wonderful people in my life, my gorgeous wife in particular, for helping me achieve my goals. I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to the families and individuals who have made these scholarship opportunities possible for students like me. Thank you once again.

STEVEN MEACHAM MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP



Jonathan Velasco Figueroa

I was born and raised in San Jose, CA. I am currently a junior majoring in Mechanical Engineering. I am excited to soon be working on my senior project with my classmates in order to gain more engineering experience. Outside of my studies, I love watching and playing football and basketball with my friends.



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MARK A. PASQUALE SCHOLARSHIP



Ashwin Unnikrishnan

I am an international student from India. Post completing my Bachelors in Automobile Engineering back in 2018, I worked at Mercedes-Benz, India for close to 5 years. I then decided to pursue my Master's in Mechanical Engineering to step foot into the field of Research and Development for which I felt San Jose State University is an excellent option. As someone who is passionate about using technology to solve real-world problems, I see Mechanical Engineering as a field that offers endless possibilities. I am particularly interested in applications of mechatronics in the healthcare industry, where robotic systems can be used to improve quality of patient care by enabling precise and efficient diagnosis and treatment. In the long term, my goal is to be at the forefront of technological advancements and play a vital role in shaping the future of engineering.



Roshan Joshua Thomas

My name is Roshan Joshua, (RJ) for short, and I am a junior in Mechanical Engineering! I have had the privilege of a multicultural upbringing, being the son of Indian immigrants and living in Singapore, New Zealand and California. The most important things to me are my faith in Jesus as a Christian, in addition to my family and friends. I truly value honing my skills as an engineer in order to make a meaningful impact in society around me; for example through improving sustainability, building helpful autonomous systems, or medical technology!

S. BROOKS WALTON SCHOLARSHIP AWARD



Dang Khoa Cao

I am a graduating senior in Mechanical Engineering with a concentration in mechatronics and a minor in robotics. I enjoy learning about various disciplines within mechanical engineering and applying what I learned in the various projects at SJSU. My love of learning extends to several extracurricular activities such as tutoring for engineering courses at Peer Connections, working as a research assistant with Dr. Lee, and manufacturing a racecar with Spartan Racing Formula SAE. I also find fulfillment in helping others along the way, whether it be helping my friends study for a midterm or assisting students early on in their engineering degree. Aside from engineering, I also enjoy the slower and simpler parts of life like taking a walk or enjoying a meal outside.



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PETER MCGRATH SCHOLARSHIP



Lance Lee

I come from Alameda, California, and my interest in mechanical engineering started when I began my personal project of restoring my family's car - our 1989 Honda Civic. I view my restoration project as a way to give back to my family who have been supporting me along my academic journey thus far, and to apply the knowledge I have learned in my engineering classes into real-life applications. My personal mantra is to tackle each day with a positive attitude, and I believe I would not have chosen my current major if I truly did not enjoy what I was doing. Being a mechanical engineering student has given me the satisfaction of creating great results knowing that it was done using my time, knowledge, and my personal best effort. Because of my interest in automobile mechanics, in the future, my longtime goal is to work in the motorsport industry as an automotive engineer.



Jason Chin

My name is Jason A. Chin, and I will be graduating with my Bachelor of Science in Mechanical Engineering focusing on Mechatronics at San Jose State University, and plan to continue my path in the Graduate Program in the Fall 2024 semester. I grew up in San Ramon, CA. At a young age, I developed a passion to build and solve problems, prompting me to pursue a career in this discipline and be able to resolve issues currently persisting in our local and global societies. I enjoy designing and learning new concepts to expand my knowledge in our constantly changing world. Nowadays, I run to keep myself fit and as a leisure activity in my free time. I am hopeful that with the skills I gained from SJSU, I can be part of the positive change for the future.



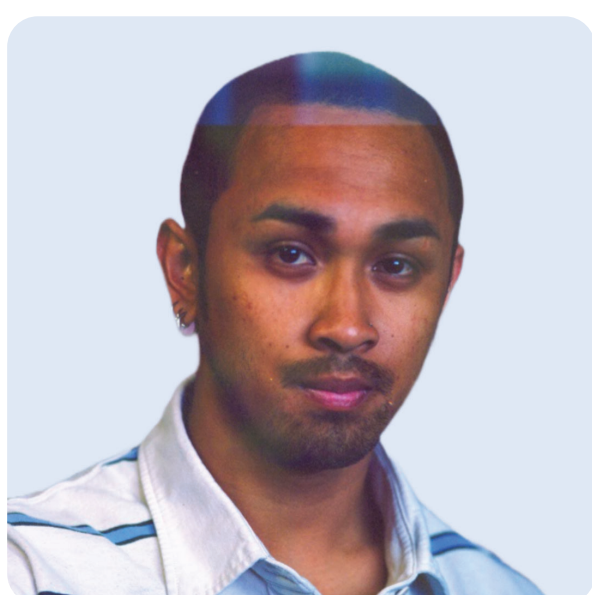
Hasan Chharawalla

I am a student at San Jose State University, pursuing a bachelors in Mechanical Engineering. I am originally from Mountain House California, where I was born and raised. I am the upcoming secretary for the University's American Society of Mechanical Engineers and have been a member for a year now. Along with my commitment to the SJSU ASME, I am also part of two honor societies, Pi Tau Sigma and Tau Beta Pi. My hobbies include lifting, travelling, cooking, trying out new foods, and playing sports.



Isaac Benavidez

I'm originally from Union City, California. I am a first generation college student going into my fifth/senior year of mechanical engineering. In the summer, I will be working as an HVAC design engineering intern at ACCO Engineered Systems. I'm taking time to try to explore as many different engineering opportunities as I can, but I hope that I will be able to do work in the medical devices field. My dream job would be to work on the artificial kidney project at UCSF. I give you my deepest thanks for believing in me and helping me continue on my path.



Nelson Cabutotan

I am a Junior in Mechanical Engineering with an interest in manufacturing and the technology involved that helps increase our capabilities. I come here as a local to the South Bay Area with a background in subtractive manufacturing where I often like to spend my time tinkering with old technology like analog cars and cameras.



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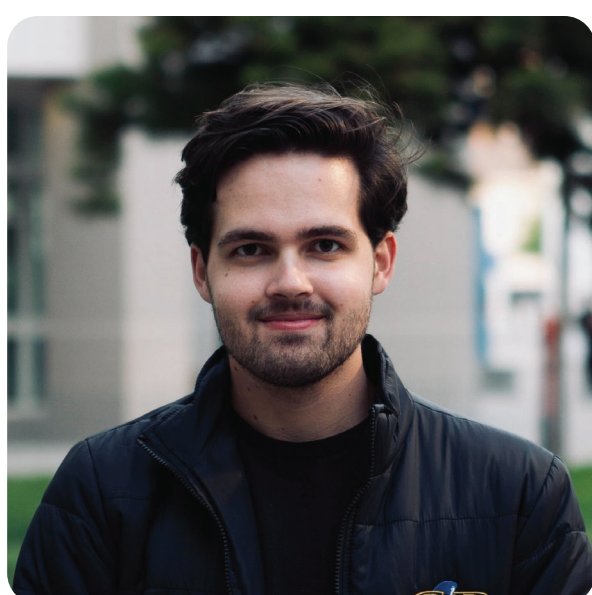


ROBERT A. DEES MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP



Oryza Tirtawijata

I spent most of my life in Lathrop, CA. Two years before I was born, my family moved from Indonesia to California in hopes of achieving the "American Dream." They would always tell me that with determination and hard work, I can achieve my dreams and use what I learn to give back to my community. Therefore, my parents, named me after the rice plant species, *Oryza Sativa*, in hopes that I will have an impact on my community, just like how rice plays a crucial part in Asian culture. I'm part of Tau Beta Pi, an honor society, and Formula Spartan Racing. Tau Beta Pi celebrates academic excellence, while Formula lets me apply engineering skills in a practical setting. I hope to use my Bachelor's degree to work in the automation industry to work on space traveling rovers or self-learning robotics.



Josiah Smith

I am currently majoring in Mechanical Engineering. This is my first year at San Jose State University, and I plan to graduate in Spring of 2027. I am from Santa Rosa, Sonoma County, and am the first engineering student in my family. Here at SJSU, I am currently part of our school's Formula SAE team, Spartan Racing, and will be going to our national competition in June. I plan to use the experiences I gain from my studies to work in the automotive industry improving the efficiency and sustainability of alternative-fuel cars.



Jake Holtz

I am a veteran of the US Air Force and a first-generation college student. After serving six years, including three deployments to the Middle East as an Aerospace Propulsion Jet Troop on MC-130H aircraft, I decided to pursue my passion for science and technology by becoming a mechanical engineer. Here, I have had the pleasure of meeting amazing people who have helped make my dream a reality. As a late-in-life student returning to school after an academic hiatus, the journey can be challenging. However, I am incredibly fortunate to have the support of the wonderful people in my life, my gorgeous wife in particular, for helping me achieve my goals. I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to the families and individuals who have made these scholarship opportunities possible for students like me. Thank you once again.



Andrew Ou

My name is Andrew Ou, and I hail from Daly City (a bit south of San Francisco). I'm majoring in Mechanical Engineering at San Jose State University, with hopes of getting a minor in Computer Science. My passion for engineering blossomed in high school, where I got involved with the First Tech Challenge, and deepened when I started taking higher-level math and physics courses. I also got involved with the Robotics club here to further enhance my knowledge and apply what I learned to real life. When I have free time, I like to take naps and play games with my friends.



Vanessa Le

I'm a first generation college student, expected to graduate by spring of 2026. I got interested in studying mechanical engineering because I've always been fascinated by how machines and structures worked. I want to be part of the group designing parts and solutions for people's everyday problems. At school, I joined the ASME Club to improve my abilities on prototyping and construction. The new combat robotics division has provided me with a lot of learning experience. In my freetime, I enjoy reading, drawing, and making spreadsheets for my dungeons and dragons games



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GILEAD SCIENCES SCHOLARSHIP



Javier J. Gomez

I am a second year first generation mechanical engineering student from San Jose, California. I have always had a passion for math and physics, which led me to want to pursue a career in mechanical engineering. I chose mechanical engineering due to the broadness of the major which would allow me to pursue a career in almost every industry. In the future, I would like to work in either the technology, space, or automotive industry. Ultimately, my goal is to work on the technology that will shape our world. I am also involved with the Society of Latino Engineers and Scientists (SOLES) at SJSU because of my passion for the advancement of Latinos in STEM.



Jacqueline Martinez Carreno

I am a first-generation Mexican Mechanical Engineering student from Sonoma County, CA. I am an active member of EOP. I am also an active member of MEP/MESA. During high school, I found a passion and love for giving back to my community. While being at SJSU I have also gotten the opportunity to volunteer and support different STEM-based organizations. In my free time, I enjoy gardening, reading, and watching Formula One.



Nicholas J. Arnett

I'm a first year Mechanical Engineering major at San José State University. My desire to understand the world and help push the boundaries of what is possible drove me to pursue a bachelor's and engage with the learning community as an undergraduate. I started my journey as a member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers where I've worked on projects that are interesting and rich with experience. I've also had a wonderful time engaging with the campus community, such as being a mentee of the Center for Asian and Pacific Islander Student Empowerment, and becoming a community impact liaison to improve the student experience with University Housing. I strive to be an excellent leader and a valuable member of the community to a helpful learning community.



David R. Pena

I am a third-year Mechanical Engineering student focusing on mechatronics. Besides academics, I spend my time participating in SOLES events, working in the lab as a research assistant, or planning for Science Extravaganza as the co-chair which is one of my satisfactions because of the community outreach involved. Last summer, I spent 10 weeks in Arlington, Texas working at General Motors as an intern. Not only did I learn to live completely on my own in a different state, but I also learned more about the automotive industry. This summer, I was invited to be an intern at Rivian in Irvine, CA. I'm looking forward to that experience as it involves electric cars which is something I'm passionate about through the Formula SAE club as the EV-Powertrain Lead.