



Michael Gee

ME Graduate of the Year Award

My name is Michael Gee and I am local from the Bay Area, born and raised in South San Francisco. After graduating high school, I enrolled in community college to find my interests. After changing between a couple of majors, I finally realized that mechanical engineering was my passion. I then graduated from Canada College in 2019 and transferred into San Jose State University as an undergraduate junior level student with a focus in mechatronics. With my interests in mechatronics, I decided to join Spartan Superway and chose them as my senior design project. Spartan Superway is a research initiative to establish a solar powered automated rapid transit ascendant network system (SPARTAN) for urban environments. Once I graduate, I will be working at DOER Marine as a mechanical engineer doing research and design for deep ocean exploration. Outside of school, I love to workout, play sports, and hike the outdoors.



Karina Gonzales

S. Brooks Walton Scholarship Award

My name is Karina Alejandra González and I am the first female Mechanical Engineer in my family. I was born in San José, live in Gilroy and spent most of my summers with my grandparents in Autlán de Navarro, Jalisco, Mexico. I was initially introduced to aspects of engineering by my dad, who drove recycling trucks. He would find washing machines, vacuums, TVs and we would fix them together to give to the family/friends who required these items. During my time at SJSU, I have been part of SOLES, SWE, Volunteer for Science Extravaganza, a CVC habitant, and Library night owl. I have attended and volunteered

at the Engineering in Diversity Conferences, as well as the Women in Engineering Conferences. I worked for the SJSU IT department for a year and a half as a student assistant/Project Manager Intern and then was a Mechanical Engineer Intern for Infineon Technologies for nine months. Moreover, I was able to study abroad in Brisbane, Queensland, Australia at the Queensland University of Technology. My plans post-graduation are to embark on my career as a Wireless Automation Mechanical Engineer for Netgear, hike throughout the US, and travel the world once the pandemic is over. I would not have accomplished what I have without the support of my family, friends, SJSU Professors, and faculty.



Nicholas Karnow

S Brooks Walton Scholarship Award

Nick Karnow is a Senior from the Sacramento area. He recently has found his passion in the aerospace industry and one day hopes to be an engineering manager. In his career, he finds the most enjoyment when he knows he is making an impact. His main hobbies include traveling, trying new restaurants, video games, board games, and spending time with family.



Yacin Chouggar

Mechanical Engineering Endowment Scholarship

My name is Yacin Chouggar, a Spring 2021 Mechanical Engineering graduate. I was born and raised in Algeria, a country in Northern Africa, and moved to the U.S. East Bay Area 9 years ago. My love for engineering studies is inextinguishable; I spent my first 6 years in the U.S. trying to learn English, support myself financially, and save up so that I can

go back to college. So, by January 2017 I was able to enroll in Berkeley City College and transferred to SJSU in fall 2018. Ever since I became a San Jose State University student, my interest in renewable energies and electric vehicles has grown bigger; SJSU has expanded my knowledge in this field through the different courses and projects I have worked on. I'm looking ahead to becoming an essential part of companies that diligently work to find new ways to explore renewable resources and help make this planet a better place. Besides schoolwork, I love backpacking, playing soccer, learning languages (I speak French, Arabic, English), and traveling the world to learn about other cultures. Succeeding to achieve my BSME degree, as a first-generation student in the U.S. is the greatest accomplishment so far, and I can't be any happier knowing that I'm graduating from SJSU with winning two scholarships, including this award.



Christian Pedrigal

Robert Dees Memorial Scholarship

My name is Christian Pedrigal, and I am a Mechanical Engineering student. Several things to know about me is that I work hard, work a lot, and joke a lot with my peers. In addition, I am proud to represent my Filipino community, the East Bay Area community, and all men under the height of 5'6". Thank you, Mom and Dad, for always supporting me in my endeavors and trusting me in doing my best in everything I do, because it is true.



Geoffrey Ament

Robert Dees Memorial Scholarship

Geoffrey Ament is a NASA Ames Pathways Student pursuing a Masters Degree in Mechanical Engineering from SJSU, specifically focusing on Mechatronics and Controls Design. Before studying at SJSU, he grew up in Wisconsin, where he completed his Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering Physics from the University of Wisconsin Platteville; this program provided him with the opportunity to learn about a number of engineering disciplines, including Mechanical Engineering, Electrical Engineering, Engineering Controls, Programming, and Advanced Physics. This program was very fitting for him as he enjoys all aspects of projects, including engineering design on paper as well as actual fabrication. Post graduation, he had the privilege of working at the NASA Ames Research Center, where he has been able to continue gaining hands on experience in the multidisciplinary field of Mechatronics, much of which has been focused on experimental helicopter testing in a Martian environment. As an SJSU student, his goal is to continue his current research at NASA Ames as he soon step into his Masters Project at SJSU.



Jei Kai Teo

Robert Dees Memorial Scholarship

My name is Kai, and I am from Malaysia. Growing up in a small town, I am fascinated by different gadgets and technologies around the globe. I've seen my passion and interest grown from mechanical watches to drones to electric vehicles throughout the years. I enjoy putting stuff together and creating fun out of it. If you asked the 12-year-old me, why would I want to be an engineer? I'd answer because I want to build a roller-coaster. That is still one of the reasons why I

am a Mechanical Engineer today. But the main reason I became an engineer was to solve real-world problems. Growing up in a country whose economy relies heavily on gasoline, I am keen to make a change to stop global warming. Outside of my academic life, I very much enjoy hiking and picnicking.



Max Rothe

Robert Dees Memorial Scholarship

My name is Max Rothe and I am a first semester transfer student at San Jose State University. I transferred from the SMCCD district where I took courses at both College of San Mateo and Skyline Colleges. I am now a third year college student majoring in mechanical engineering and I am involved in MEP and a part of the CED. Outside of school I work to make locally sourced organic produce and grocery essentials affordable and accessible to those in need in East Palo Alto and Menlo Park. I also like to ride bikes and go to the beach!



Zachary Abdallah

Robert Dees Memorial Scholarship

My name is Zachary Abdallah and I am from Folsom, CA. I am a third year mechanical engineering student at San Jose State University. I have always been interested in understanding how various mechanisms and devices work which led me to study my passion of mechanical engineering. Ever since high school, I have enjoyed working on projects such as miniature solar cars, robotics, and many other engineering projects that peaked my interest. Over my last few years at San Jose State University, I have had the privilege of participating in multiple on-campus organizations such as Spartan Hyperloop and Spartan Racing Electric that have helped me further my skills as an engineer. Additionally, I have

been able to pass on everything that I have learned down to younger students, helping them develop skills that will benefit them in the engineering field. Being able to help mentor younger students while putting theoretical concepts into practice has been one of my favorite parts of my academic career.



Vincent Tran

David A. Brown Fellowship in Mechatronics

I am a graduate mechanical engineering student with a concentration on mechatronics. I decided to attend graduate school so that I can learn more about control systems design. I am currently working as a New Product Introduction Engineer at Gener8 where I learn about product development and manufacturing on innovative instruments. One of my interests is traveling because I get to explore new terrain, learn new things about different parts of the world, eat different types of cuisines and the opportunity to capture moments on my camera.



Thuan Nguyen

David A. Brown Fellowship in Mechatronics

My name is Thuan Nguyen, and I am so grateful to be one of the recipients to receive a scholarship from our mechanical engineering department. I am an immigrant from Viet Nam and my first step was setting foot in the Bay Area. I love this area so much even though it was really hard to adopt new changes at the beginning. The area gives me good air, delicious food and most important, it has given me the opportunity to go back to school. I started at West Valley college and then at San Jose State University where I have grown greatly

to be a better person. In my free time, I love talking and discussing with my dad who is a construction worker about how and why an object or system has its design. I also love listening to music because it frees my mind and gives me courage.



Matan Blum

Steven Meacham Memorial Scholarship

My name is Matan Blum and I'm a 25-year-old transfer student from Foothill Community College. I was born in Israel, but was raised in the Bay Area where I continue to reside. From a young age, I was captivated by designing and building—naturally leading me to become a mechanical engineer. Even in my first year of high school, I was already experimenting with SolidWorks and continuing to build my passion. After my first two years in community college, I decided to serve as an EOD (Explosive Ordnance Disposal) specialist in the Israeli military. That experience helped me set higher standards for myself—pushing me to excel at SJSU. Looking forward, I want to leverage my interest in technology to design sustainable inventions that empower others.



Linwei Zhuo

Francis Huang Memorial Scholarship Award

My name is Linwei Zhuo. I came from China. I am a Mechanical engineering graduate student with an interest in mechatronic, deep learning, system control, and computer vision. I joined SJSU's small group project last year. The goal of our project is to contribute to a novel approach on the design of metamaterials using deep learning. Last semester, my group mate and I used reinforcement learning to suppress the total scattering cross section of multiple rigid cylinders and thin shells over a range of

frequencies. We submitted our results to the Journal of Acoustic American Society. For my master thesis, I am working on the design of acoustic cloak using generative modeling and gradient-based optimization. The goal of this research is to find a new global optimization method for inverse design. My preliminary results show that generative modeling is a promising approach as my model outperforms Matlab's Fmincon solver at high frequencies. I am going to publish my results to Inter Noise 2021. In the future, I am interested in conducting research on applying deep learning on robotics and control systems.

Jason Corona

Francis Huang Memorial Scholarship Award



My name is Jason Corona and I am majoring in Mechanical Engineering entering my sophomore year at San Jose State University. I am from South San Francisco California being a local Bay Area kid. I'm also a huge San Francisco Giants fan being one for my whole life during championship seasons and seasons that were rough. I hope to one day use a degree in mechanical engineering to help better people's lives and make the world more sustainable.



Keian Castro

Francis Huang Memorial Scholarship Award

My name is Keian Castro and I am a third-year mechanical engineering student at SJSU. While born and raised in the Silicon Valley, math, science, and engineering has always followed me since I was a child. Initially, LEGO Technic introduced me to the concept of building with mechanical components. As I grew older, however, the first use of the Arduino microcontroller has not only introduced me to the world of mechatronics, but it made me realize that the dreams and ideas of the modern and young engineer are limitless. Finally, I would like to show my appreciation for my family and friends as I wouldn't be in the position I am in today without their love and support, especially during this difficult time. Thank you SJSU for laying down the foundation that will allow me to become successful in the future as a mechanical engineer!



Mason Sage

Francis Huang Memorial Scholarship Award

My name is Mason Sage, I am a junior at San Jose State University pursuing my passion in mechanical engineering with a minor in computer science. Once graduated, I plan to work in industry for a few years, then return to school to further my education by receiving my M.S. in Robotics Engineering. Currently serving as Intelligent Systems Team Lead for the SJSU Robotics Team, I have taken the opportunity to push technological boundaries and contribute to the spartan engineering community with clubs and projects. Out of curiosity and a love for engineering, I have contributed to multiple senior design projects, master's projects, undergraduate research on biomedical robotics, and assisted various clubs, such as ASME, with robotics development. My dream company is X, The Moonshot Factory (formally Google X), a company known to invent for the betterment of humanity and to find solutions to the world's most pressing issues. It is here, that I see my skills having the largest impact on today's most challenging problems.



Mingjia Xu

Francis Huang Memorial Scholarship Award

My name is Mingjia Xu, and I am a graduate student in Mechanical Engineering with an undergraduate degree in Aerospace Engineering from San Jose State University. I am an international student from China. I came to the U.S. in 2015 and became an SJSU Engineering student in 2017. I like watching NBA games and I am a big fan of Lakers since I was a kid. Besides basketball, I also love road tripping. I drove all the way to Seattle to visit the Boeing factory and

several aviation museums. I slept in my car at the rest area on I-5 during this one-week trip to save money. It is my craziest road trip experience so far.



Beverly Wilt

Francis Huang Memorial Scholarship Award

In my time at SJSU, I've grown as an individual and learned more about myself, what it means to be an adult, and what it means to be an engineer. Though my journey has not been without hardships, I will continue to persevere tirelessly in hopes of achieving my goals. I'm following in the footsteps of my mom and other great female scientists and engineers before me. While those are big shoes to fill, I am determined to make them proud. My dream is to work in the area of mechatronics or robotics while incorporating my personal interest in 3D modeling and printing to create innovative and unique products.