

2024 SPE Thermoplastic Elastomers Technical Interest Group Scholarship



Dear Thermoplastic Elastomers Technical Interest Group,

The SPE Foundation is delighted to present a report of your 2024 SPE Thermoplastic Elastomers Technical Interest Group Scholarship. We are grateful for your commitment to our future workforce and hope you take pride in seeing how your support drives these three scholars' education and career aspirations.

Together, we awarded our highest number of scholarships in the history of the SPE Foundation this year, totaling 112 scholarships to 75 individuals with \$262,250 in funds. Thank you for role in this achievement and for your continued investment in our future workforce!

Sincerely,

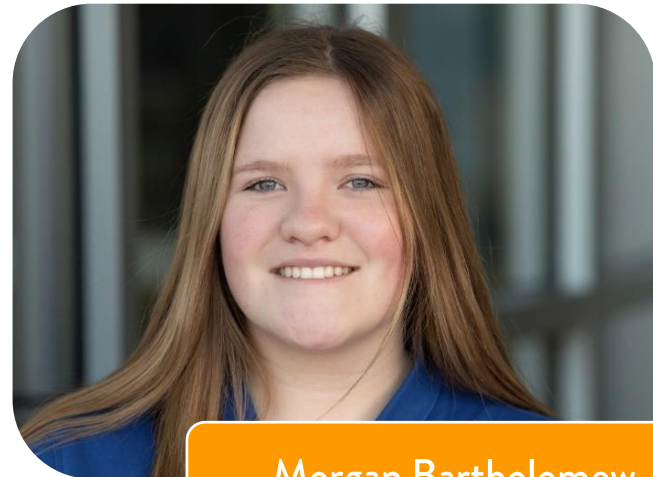
Eve Vitale, Chief Executive
SPE Foundation



Jocelyn Hess



Steven Vong



Morgan Bartholomew

\$29,000

Total Dollars
Awarded
2016-2024

26

Total Scholars
Recognized
2016-2024

Jocelyn Hess is an upcoming junior studying Materials Science and Engineering at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville with a minor in Honors Leadership Studies. She spent the summer of 2023 studying the relationships between biofiber flow properties and their PLA-biocomposite mechanical strength at Oak Ridge National Laboratory in Tennessee. Jocelyn is the Travel Chair for her university's Material Advantage club and is a freshman mentor for the Society of Women Engineers. After graduation, Jocelyn plans to obtain a Ph.D. focusing on polymer composites to pursue a professor position and research career at a university.

I was overjoyed to learn I am the recipient of a 2024 Thermoplastic Elastomers Technical Interest Group Scholarship! I am majoring in materials science and engineering with a minor in leadership at The University of Tennessee in the Tickle College of Engineering. I plan to graduate in the spring of 2026, then to pursue a Ph.D. to conduct research on polymeric composites and be a college professor. Your generosity will ease the financial burden of school, and I will be able to concentrate more of my time studying, performing research, and being an active member of the many student organizations I am a part of, including SPE, the Society of Women Engineers and the Material Advantage Club. Thank you again for your generosity and faith in me, you have my sincerest gratitude. I promise to dedicate my time to school and put your money to good use. I hope one day to be in a position to give back to my community as you have done.



Steven Vong is a first-generation student at the University of Arkansas studying Chemical Engineering. While maintaining a 3.96 GPA, he conducts research for the Polymer Nanoengineering Lab focusing on lignin-based polymers. During the summer, Steven works as an intern at CelluDot, a polymer emulsion start-up, performing research and learning process scale-up. Formerly on a Biomedical Engineering track, his passion shifted to Chemical Engineering for its application in materials science. Outside academia, Steven enjoys mountain biking and running in Bentonville. Eager to innovate in thermoplastics, he seeks to leverage his academic achievements and research background to contribute to sustainable materials engineering.

I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude for selecting me as a recipient of the thermoplastic's scholarship. Your support means a great deal to me and will significantly lighten my financial burden as I continue my studies in Chemical Engineering at the University of Arkansas. This scholarship not only validates my dedication to the field of thermoplastics but also motivates me to strive for excellence in my academic pursuits and future career. I am eager to apply the knowledge and skills I have gained to contribute meaningfully to the advancement of thermoplastic technology. Thank you once again for your generosity and belief in my potential. I am deeply honored to be a recipient of this scholarship.



Steven Vong

Morgan Bartholomew hails from Etters, Pennsylvania. This fall, she will be a senior at Pennsylvania College of Technology, majoring in Plastics and Polymer Engineering Technology. She is heavily involved with her college's SPE, where she plans different club events and activities. She has had several officer positions, and currently acts as the SPE Chapter President. She is a member of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society and is a Presidential Student Ambassador at her college, which allows her to act as a liaison between Penn College and prospective students/families, alumni and others.

I am honored to be the recipient of the SPE Thermoplastic Elastomers Technical Interest Group Scholarship as a rising senior enrolled in Pennsylvania College of Technology's Plastics & Polymers Engineering Program. Thank you for your generosity in funding this scholarship. I am excited as I continue this next chapter of life, with graduation on the horizon!! I am currently working two part time jobs on campus to help pay for my current college expenses; I am a Presidential Student Ambassador, as well as a Student Library Liaison. I am very passionate and driven when it comes to success and making sure I am doing something I love. I knew that Pennsylvania College was the right fit for me, and their program has afforded me the opportunity to not only earn my Associate's Degree in May 2023, but also now entering my fourth and final year, where I will gain a Bachelor's Degree in May 2025. By being the recipient of this scholarship award, it will allow me to be in a better position to pay for furthering my education, in hopes of graduating with little student loan debt. Again, I cannot thank you enough for your generosity, it is greatly appreciated!





FOUNDATION

SPE FOUNDATION

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Thank you