

Student Honors & Awards

Undergraduate

2021 Malcolm Cotton Brown Award

Given in memory of Lt. Malcolm Cotton Brown, Royal Air Force, who was killed in service on July 23, 1918. One thousand dollars is awarded to one or more seniors of high academic standing in physics and outstanding research in experimental physics.

Thao H. Dinh SB '21

Thesis supervisor: William D. Oliver

Anjali Nambrath SB '21

Thesis supervisor: Or Hen



2021 Malcolm Cotton
Brown Award winners
ABOVE: Thao H. Dinh and
LEFT: Anjali Nambrath.

2021 Burchard Scholars

The Burchard Scholars Program brings together distinguished members of the faculty and promising sophomores and juniors who have demonstrated excellence in some aspect of the humanities, arts, and social sciences, as well as in science and engineering. The Program is sponsored by the Dean's Office, School of Humanities, Arts, and Social Sciences.

Hillary Diane Andales SB '23

Karna Morey SB '22

Jeffery Yu SB '22



The 2021 Morse/Orloff Award for Research

Given in memory of the late MIT Professor of Physics Philip Morse, one of the renowned physicists of the twentieth century, whose contributions spanned basic physics to engineering. Funds are generously provided by Dr. and Mrs. Daniel Orloff in memory of their son Joel, a Physics major, who died in an automobile accident shortly after graduation from MIT in 1978. One thousand dollars is awarded to a senior student in high academic standing who plans to pursue graduate study in physics.

Haoyang Gao SB '21

Thesis supervisor: Leonid Levitov

LEFT: 2021 Morse/Orloff Award for Research winner Haoyang Gao.

The 2021 Joel Matthew Orloff Awards

Established by Dr. and Mrs. Daniel Orloff in memory of their son Joel, a Physics major, who died in an automobile accident shortly after graduation from MIT in 1978. One thousand dollars is awarded to award winners in three categories.

SERVICE

Given to the student(s) with the most outstanding service to the Department, Institute, or community.

Grecia Castelazo SB '21-22

Academic Advisor: Barton Zwiebach

Rian Flynn SB '21

Academic Advisor: Nergis Mavalvala

Sujay S. Kazi SB '21

Academic Advisor: Matthew Evans

Rachel C. Zhang SB '21

Academic Advisor: Philip Harris



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:
2021 Joel Matthew Orloff
Award for Service co-winners
Grecia Castelazo,
Rian Flynn, Sujay S. Kazi,
and Rachel C. Zhang.

SCHOLARSHIP

Given to the student(s) with outstanding scholastic achievement in physics.

Srijon Mukherjee SB '21

Academic Advisor: Christoph Paus



LEFT: 2021 Joel Matthew Orloff Award for Scholarship winner Srijon Mukherjee.

BELOW: 2021 Joel Matthew Orloff Award for Research winner Qiantan Hong.

RESEARCH

Given to the student(s) with the most outstanding research in Physics.

Qiantan Hong SB '21

Research Supervisor: Leonid Levitov





The 2021 Order of the Lepton Award

Awarded to a graduating senior who best exemplifies the spirit and characteristics of MIT's Physics students. Established with gifts from alumni and friends of the Department, the Order of the Lepton embodies the community spirit and collaboration that are hallmarks of the MIT Physics Department. The fund provides a prize of \$1,000.

Anjali Nambrath SB '21

Academic advisor: Raymond Ashoori

ABOVE: 2021 Order of the Lepton Award winner Anjali Nambrath.

2021 Sigma Pi Sigma Inductees

Election to Sigma Pi Sigma is based upon a student's strong academic record. With over 90,000 members throughout its history, its purpose is to be of service to the broader physics community. It encourages scholarship in physics by admitting a student to the fellowship of others with similar interests and accomplishments. This year, MIT's Physics Department inducts 15 new members.

Thiago R. Bergamaschi

Thao H. Dinh

Haoyang Gao

Uriel Guajardo

Qiantan Hong

Sujay S. Kazi

Anna Khoroshilov

Yuan Lee

Srijon Mukherjee

Debaditya Pramanik

Luke Qi

Yogeshwar A. Velingker

Charles Wang

Fan Francis Wang

Jennifer J. Yu

2021 Phi Beta Kappa Inductees

Phi Beta Kappa is the oldest honor society in the United States of America. Less than 10% of the graduating class is invited, and selection is based upon academic record, dedication to the liberal arts and language skills. This year, MIT's Chapter (Xi) of Phi Beta Kappa voted to invite 149 members of the Class of 2021, 29 of whom are physics majors, to membership in the Society.

Ghadah M. Alshalan

Sheila J. Baber

Thiago R. Bergamaschi

Abhijatmedhi Chotrattanapituk

Thao H. Dinh

Aidan Faustina

Rian Flynn

Haoyang Gao

Uriel Guajardo

Qiantan Hong

Sami Kaya

Sujay S. Kazi

Anna Khoroshilov

Yuan Lee

Yong Hui Lim

Alex Miller

Gabriel L. Mintzer

Srijon Mukherjee

Anjali Nambrath

Erik J. Porter

Luke Qi

Nicholas R. Venanzi

Charles Wang

Fan Francis Wang

Harrison K. Wang

Deborah H. Wen

Jennifer J. Yu

Mikaeel M. Yunus

Rachel C. Zhang

Other Undergraduate Awards & Honors

Aidan Driscoll (SB '21. Thesis advisor: Barton Zwiebach) was awarded MIT's Alan Brody Prize in Theater Arts, given to "a senior who has demonstrated artistic excellence in the theater with an emphasis on playwriting."

Rian Flynn (SB '21. Academic advisor: Nergis Mavalvala) received the 2021 Laya and Jerome B. Wiesner Student Art Award for outstanding achievement in, and contributions to, the arts at MIT; and the 2021 Joseph D. Everingham Award in recognition of notable creative accomplishments in theater arts.

Kylie Hansen (SB '22. Academic advisor: Tracy Slatyer) was named a 2021 Margarita Ribas Groeger Distinguished Scholar for "achievement of proficiency in language, cultural understanding and enthusiasm in language learning."

Anjali Nambrath (SB '21. Thesis advisor: Or Hen) received a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship; a Fulbright India Student Research Award; First Prize in the Global Languages Awards for Excellence; and MIT's Laya W. Wiesner Award for "an undergraduate woman student who has most enhanced MIT community life."

Audrey Saltzman (SB '21. Academic advisor: Yen-Jie Lee) was awarded a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship; and received the Ida M. Green Fellowship from the MIT Office of Graduate Education.

Graduate

2021 Alan H. Barrett Prize

The prize honors the late Professor Alan H. Barrett's outstanding influence in the education of physicists and his fundamental contribution to the science and technology of astrophysics. One thousand dollars is awarded to a graduate student with outstanding research in astrophysics.

Andrea Biscoveanu
Astrophysics

Thesis supervisor: Salvatore Vitale

2021 Buechner Student Teaching Prize

Awarded to a graduate student for outstanding contributions to the educational program of the Department during the past academic year. The \$1,000 prize was established in 1987 by the late Mrs. Christina Buechner in memory of her husband Prof. William Buechner, who served as Physics department head from 1962-1967.

Emily Crabb
Theoretical Condensed Matter

Thesis supervisor: Jeffrey Grossman

2021 Martin Deutsch Student Award for Excellence in Experimental Physics

Created in 1987 in honor of Professor Martin Deutsch's outstanding career as an experimentalist and for his influence as an educator. \$1,000 is awarded annually to a graduate student mid-way through his or her thesis research in any field, with preference for an experimentalist.

Thomas Hartke
Atomic, Molecular and Optical Physics

Thesis supervisor: Martin Zwierlein

Christopher Whittle
Astrophysics

Thesis supervisor: Matthew Evans

2021 Graduate Student Prizes for Service to the Physics Department

These prizes were established in 2020–2021, a tumultuous year which saw the closing of the campus for much of the year and where social justice issues had great importance for students, staff and faculty. Department Head Peter Fisher created the Graduate Student Prize for Service to the Physics Department in recognition of a great outpouring of service by the graduate student body to address Departmental diversity, equity and inclusion issues.

Dominika Durovcikova

Astrophysics

Thesis supervisor: Vivishek Sudhir

Rahul Jayaraman

Astrophysics

Thesis supervisor: George Ricker

Mason Ng

Astrophysics

Thesis supervisor: Deepto Chakrabarty

Olumakinde Ogunnaike

Theoretical Condensed Matter Physics

Thesis supervisor: Leonid Levitov

Wenzer Qin

Theoretical Nuclear and Particle Physics

Thesis supervisor: Tracy Slatyer

Stella Schindler

Theoretical Nuclear and Particle Physics

Thesis supervisor: Iain Stewart

Cedric Wilson

Atomic, Molecular, and Optical Physics

Thesis supervisor: Martin Zwierlein

2021 Andrew M. Lockett III Memorial Fund Award

Awarded to a graduate student in theoretical physics, with preference given to students from Los Alamos, NM, and New Orleans, LA. The award currently carries a prize of \$1,000. The award was established by Mrs. Lucille Lockett Stone in memory of her husband, Dr. Andrew M. Lockett, who received his PhD in physics from MIT in 1954.

Gurtej Kanwar
*Theoretical Nuclear and
Particle Physics*

Thesis supervisor: William Detmold

Sergio Vazquez Prize

Established in memory of Sergio Vazquez, a graduate student in the Center for Theoretical Physics who was killed in an automobile accident on April 1, 1990. One thousand dollars to be awarded annually to a graduate student, with preference for a student from an under-represented sector of the population who had to overcome racial, physical or financial barriers.

Cedric Wilson
*Atomic, Molecular,
and Optical Physics*

Thesis supervisor: Martin Zwierlein

Other Graduate Awards & Honors

Sylvia Biscoveanu (Astrophysics. Thesis supervisor: Salvatore Vitale) received the 2021 Ragnar and Margaret Naess Award of MIT's Music and Theater Arts Section, for recognition of creative accomplishments in music.

Robert Johnston (Experimental Nuclear and Particle Physics. Thesis supervisor: Richard Milner) was awarded a 2020–2021 JSA/Jefferson Lab Graduate Fellowship.

Sangbaek Lee (Experimental Nuclear and Particle Physics. Thesis supervisor: Richard Milner) was awarded a 2020–2021 JSA/Jefferson Lab Graduate Fellowship.

Chiara Salemi (Experimental Nuclear and Particle Physics. Thesis supervisor: Lindley Winslow) was awarded the Dr. Pliny A. and Margaret H. Price Prize from The Ohio State University's Center for Cosmology and Astroparticle Physics in recognition of "research excellence and exceptional scientific promise in all areas of cosmology and astroparticle physics."

Zhaozhong Shi (Experimental Nuclear and Particle Physics. Thesis supervisor: Yen-Jie Lee) received the Office of Science Graduate Student Research Award of the U.S. Department of Energy (2020).