

# 2022 Founders' Scholarship Recipients



**Sanjit Sarda** (San Diego, CA) found a home in Science Olympiad after moving to the United States at the start of his freshman year of high school. As a member of the **Rancho Bernardo High School** Science Olympiad team, he competed in 15 different events, exploring a variety of STEM disciplines. He especially enjoyed the events involving Electrical Engineering, which he will study this fall as a student at **UCLA**. Embodying the spirit of service, Sanjit volunteered with a local middle school's Science Olympiad team and worked to keep the team running during the pandemic, raising \$4,000 to support the team and mentoring the students. "It's safe to say that Science Olympiad has had the most impact on my future ambitions and has given me the confidence I need to succeed."



**Stephanie Wang** (Katy, TX) is an award-winning Science Olympiad student from **Seven Lakes High School**. At the start of the pandemic, this Disease Detectives participant addressed the spread of misinformation by writing *Epidemiology Unmasked*, a textbook explaining outbreak investigations that has since been recognized by the US Congress. Her subsequent campaign, Project Unmasked, has reached 70,000 people, and taught over 4,000 students. "I aspire for a career at the intersection of medicine, research, and public policy—a unique combination forged from my early explorations in Science Olympiad." Stephanie will take her studies to **Harvard University** this fall, where she plans to study both Molecular & Cellular Biology and Government.



**Garrett Shoemaker** (Linwood, KS) has used Science Olympiad to give back to his community since joining his school's team in 7th grade. Through volunteering with elementary science clubs and leading science summer camps, this **Eudora High School** Science Olympiad team member has taken his Science Olympiad skills to the classroom by implementing hands-on learning activities. "Through Science Olympiad I have developed an incredible love for science and discovery. This helped me to decide that I would like to teach chemistry at the high school level." He hopes to coach his own Science Olympiad team one day after earning his Education degree from **Baker University**.



**Lavanya Gupta** (Cary, NC) is the driving force behind the new Science Olympiad team at **Green Level High School**. Attending four schools in her first five years in North Carolina, Science Olympiad was constant throughout the transitions. As the captain of Green Level's team, she has implemented training resources to help her team achieve success. Passionate about equity in education, Lavanya has taken on several advocacy roles to ensure opportunities like Science Olympiad are available for all students, work she will continue as she studies Biomolecular Engineering at **Johns Hopkins University**. "I aspire to combine research and education in my career, and my involvement in SO has given me a glimpse into this future."



**Joseph Fogt** (Hudsonville, MI) is a founding member of the Science Olympiad team at **Hudsonville High School**, and has helped the program build a legacy of success. As a coach for several middle school events, he shared best practices and enjoyed seeing younger students become passionate about exploring science. He plans to continue his outreach with underserved students in Flint, MI, while pursuing a Mechanical Engineering degree at **Kettering University**. "Science Olympiad has massively influenced my career choices. It encouraged me to lead a life with STEM by feeding my competitive nature and building camaraderie with my teammates."

