



## **Chemistry Diploma Ceremony**

**Saturday, May 13, 2023**

**Douglass Feldman Ballroom A/B**

**11:00 AM**

# Faculty & Staff

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## Department Faculty

Brandon R. Barnett	Pengfei “Frank” Huo	Bradley L. Nilsson
Kara L. Bren	William D. Jones	John-Carl Olsen
Joseph P. Dinnocenzo	C. Rose Kennedy	Shauna Paradine
Rudi Fasan	Kathryn Knowles	Benjamin Partridge
Ignacio Franco	Todd D. Krauss	Lewis J. Rothberg
Alison J. Frontier	Ellen Matson	W. Udo Schröder
Benjamin Hafensteiner	David W. McCamant	Courtney Stanford

## Research/Cluster Faculty & Senior Scientists

Lisa DeLouise	Alan Grossfield	Eric Phizicky
Paul Dunman	Al Marchetti	Marc Porosoff
Frank Ebetino	David Mathews	Alexander Shestopalov
Dmitri Ermolenko	Benjamin Miller	Francesca Vitali
Samir Farid	Brendan Mort	Andrew White
Sina Ghaemmaghami	Astrid Müller	

## Staff

Tessa Baker	Jason Holt	Doris Wheeler
William Brennessel	Tony Lenzo	Ken Simolo
Brie Coyne	Elaine Maholick	Barbara Smith
Donna J. Dolan	Chloe May	Barbara Snaith
Katie Fiete	Lyndia McGarry	Yinru Song
Joseph Hickey	Terry O’Connell	Ray Teng
Jalil Shojaie		

## Librarians

Susan Cardinal

Trina Lowery

# The Class of 2023

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## Doctoral Degrees (Ph.D)

Maria Aquilera

Nikki Bakas

Shilpa Bhatia

Andrew R. Bortz

Joshua Demuth

Alex Fertig

Yu Gu

Melissa Jagrosse

Melissa Koch

Donnggeonq Nam

Mikhaila Ritz

Karla Sanchez

Rosalia Lievanos

Aleksa Radovic

Eric Schreiber

Trevor Tumiel

Geemi Wellawatte

Bufan Zhang



# The Class of 2023

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## Master of Science (en route to Ph.D)

Pamela Agredo	Hailemariam Mitiku
Daniel Akuamoah	Owen Monteferrante
Farwa Awan	Sebastian Montillo
Alexis Bauer	Soraya Ngarnim
Jordan Butt	Shannon, O'Neil
Shannon Cooney	Chari Peter
Erica Craddock	Liz Phinney
Bo Couture	Liz Piedmont
Vivek Gangadharan Pillai	Katie Proe
Mamta Dagar	Revathy Rajan
Michelle Hendricks	Leyla Valerio
Hafsa Irfan	Juan Villada Morales
Roberto Leon Baxin	Patrycia Zybura
Maria Lizarazo	

## Master of Science (Terminal)

Thakshila Dayananda	Yeuheng (Sam) Min
Nawal Jafari	Ryan Pohorenc



# The Class of 2023

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## Bachelor of Arts (B.A.)

Seungjae (Charlie) Chun

Emily Diaz

Ciara Fernandez

Ellen Irving

Thompson V. Marinho

Lily Neugebauer

Erin Christine O'Kane

Camille E. Stevenson

Hannah Shanley

Luci Vosatka

Griffin C. Weiner

Jiwon Woo

Ahjin Yoo

## Bachelor of Science (B.S.)

Erika Cerna Arroyo

Elise Alexandra Gendrich

Yahui (Leyla) Guo

Maxwell Martin Hughes

Aidan River Kropiwnicki

Yitian Liu

Daniel T. Nakamura

Rylee Stuart Neumann

Aliza Panjwani

Camden Reid Parker

Jacob Ritterman

Tong Sun

Jialong Wang

Xijue Wu

Xiaotian Zhang

Zeyuan Zhu



# Erika Cerna Arroyo

I am so grateful for my experience during the last 4 years at the University of Rochester. I was able to study chemistry alongside amazing peers and professors. I was also able to conduct some very interesting research with Dr. Frontier. Aside from academics, I was also able to grow as a dancer and performer with U of R's very own Rice Crew where I served as their business manager for two years. On paper, I am leaving with

a chemistry major and a psychology minor but in reality I am leaving with so much more than that. I encountered and overcame so many challenges during my time here but thanks to incredible friends, professors, and my family, I was able to overcome them. I leave with more resilience, wisdom, compassion, and I cannot wait to continue to grow in this next phase of my life. I want to give special thanks to Dr. McCamant, Dr. Frontier, Dr. Neidig, and Dr. Kraus for supporting me during my time here. I also want to thank my lovely friends who were my rock these last 4 years. Last but not least, I want to give thanks to my family, especially my sister Estefania, my dad, and my stepmom Lorena, for always supporting and believing in me. Este logro es de ustedes también. After graduation, I will be working in the biotech industry in San Francisco before pursuing my PhD at the University of Minnesota. I will miss you U of R!!

# Charlie (Seungjae) Chun



“

Thank you to my family, friends and mentors for all of your support these last 4 years! Can't wait to take next steps in my life.”

# Emily Diaz



“ During my time at University of Rochester, I did research at Strong Memorial Hospital in the Plastic Surgery department and was able to present my research at Harvard Medical School. My future plans include studying abroad in Spain and India for my gap year.”

# Ciara Fernandez



Here at the University of Rochester, I am a dual degree Neuroscience and Chemistry Student. I spent my time outside of class on the competitive club volleyball team, a member of Delta Gamma Fraternity, and a member of Doctors Without Borders. For the past couple years I've been a workshop leader and a lab teaching assistant for both neuroscience and chemistry courses. I also participated in research at URCM and received the Schwartz Discover Grant. I'm especially grateful for my friends, family, and professors that supported me through my time here.

# Elise Alexandra Gendrich



The Chemistry Department here has been wonderful for me and my journey through college. I first joined the Bren Lab as a junior and spent some time researching nitrate reduction and enjoying delicious food with the lab (separately, of course!). I proceeded to join the Jones Lab to explore inorganic synthesis and the conversion of ethanol to butanol; I also got to know the basement of Hutch and the people who work there. Next year, thanks to the Take Five program, I have another year as an undergraduate, during which I will continue my various classes and student theater endeavors. I will also be joining the Knowles Lab this summer in order to make a foray into the world of materials science and spinel oxides!

# Yahui (Leyla) Guo



I started my undergraduate research as a McNair scholar with Prof. Nilsson during the summer of my sophomore year. We investigated the packing structure of peptide assembly to understand the property of pleated and rippled  $\beta$ -sheet as a beneficial biomaterial. In the summer of 2022, I was granted as a summer research fellowship at Princeton University and worked with Prof. MacMillan to develop the one-step approach of decarboxylative trifluoromethylation on (hetero)benzoic acid with photocatalysis. After graduation, I will start my Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry at Boston University in the Fall of 2023.

I would love to thank my friends, my family, Professor Nilsson, Professor MacMillan, the Nilsson group, and everyone else who supported me to become who I am today!

# Maxwell Martin Hughes



I began my undergraduate journey as an ambitious pre-med student with goals to simply survive the “weed-out” courses, like organic chemistry and biochemistry. Well, somewhere along this journey I realized that my intellectual passions lie right at this interface of chemistry and biology. The incredible faculty and vast academic opportunities at the University of Rochester made it possible for me to explore my diverse interests. I would especially like to thank Dr. Alison Frontier for the opportunity to conduct chemistry research in pursuit of developing a novel carbo-Nazarov cyclization. It was during this time that I truly discovered my passion for chemistry and the research experience. Outside of the lab, I am grateful for the time I spent as an organic chemistry tutor, through The Learning Center, as well as being a laboratory teaching assistant in Honors Organic Chemistry and Chemical Instrumentation, as I have a new appreciation for teaching. I would also like to thank all the friends I have made during my undergraduate studies and my family for their constant support and source of motivation. In the fall, I plan to continue my academic and research journey by attending Vanderbilt University to pursue a PhD in chemistry.

# Ellen Irving

My time in the chemistry department at UR has been full of enriching experiences. My fascination with chemical biology began during application lectures for First-Year Organic Chemistry with Dr. Fasan when we learned about the mechanisms enzymes employ to catalyze reactions based on their 3D structure. Through these lectures, I discovered my interest in applying chemical concepts to biological



research questions. My undergraduate research in the Fasan lab focused on engineering enzymes with improved thermostability and diversified reactivity. There, I learned many practical skills to take forward into my research career and, perhaps more important, developed a passion for tinkering with proteins. I am grateful to Dr. Fasan and my mentors Dr. Jacob Iannuzzelli, Bo Couture, and Michelle Hendricks for these opportunities. Summer research experiences in industry at QuidelOrtho and at MIT studying the specificity of protein-protein interactions expanded my interests. I also served as a workshop leader for Organic Chemistry, Physical Chemistry I, and Intro to Programming for Biology. I am honored to have been awarded an NSF Graduate Research Fellowship, a Goldwater Scholarship, a Catherine Block Memorial Prize, and a Junior Scholar Award as a result of my efforts at UR. This fall, I will start a PhD program in biology at MIT where I will continue to use my chemical knowledge to study protein function. I am incredibly thankful for all my professors, TAs, research mentors, friends, and family whose support has helped me along the way.

# Aidan River Kropiwnicki



In my time at Rochester, I've competed on the Track & Field team as a decathlete, worked as a lifeguard at the school pool, served on the eboard of Delta Kappa Epsilon, played piano with the pit band of 'Off Broadway On Campus', and met amazing people along every step of the way. For the last two years, I've gotten the opportunity to work with some of the most amazing people - and scientists - in the Paradine Lab. I'm extremely grateful to have had the opportunity to work so closely with the graduate students, studying palladium catalysis and heterocycle formation. Huge thank you to Kait and Owen for being amazing mentors (and teaching me everything I know), and to the rest of the Paradine lab, I'll see you at the next ACS conference!

# Yitian Liu



I am extremely thankful for the four years I spent at the University of Rochester, where I gained a wealth of valuable knowledge, formed lasting friendships, and solidified my career aspirations. I owe a special debt of gratitude to Professor Udo for offering me an internship at the University of Rochester's Laboratory for Laser Energetics, which has opened my eyes to the significant impact of chemistry on people's daily lives. I intend to leverage the knowledge and experience gained during my time at Rochester, in combination with the laboratory experience, to enhance my preparedness for my forthcoming PhD program. This fall, I am excited to commence my studies at Brown University.

# Thompson V. Maranhão



My four years at UofR have been a journey of personal growth, knowledge expansion, and community building. In my freshman year, I became a Kearn's scholar and I was awarded with the Research and Innovation Grant. In my sophomore year, I worked both as a teaching assistant and a workshop leader for the Freshman Organic Chemistry lab. In my junior year, I was a workshop leader for General Chemistry. Since the spring of my junior year I have been conducting research on the synthesis and characterization of polyoxovanadate alkoxide clusters under the supervision of Dr. Ellen Matson and mentorship of Dr. Eric Schreiber. I'm a globally-minded world traveler. In the fall of 2022, I set sail on Semester at Sea, an eye-opening study abroad experience that exposed me to 11 unique national cultures for 105 days. In the spring of 2023, I served as the president of the Brazilian Student Association. As a Latino, first-generation STEM student, education has been the engine of my journey. I strive for other underrepresented minorities to be similarly impacted by it.

# Daniel T. Nakamura



The beginning of my chemistry career was unorthodox, to say the least. I began as a student in general chemistry, but when Dr. Fasan

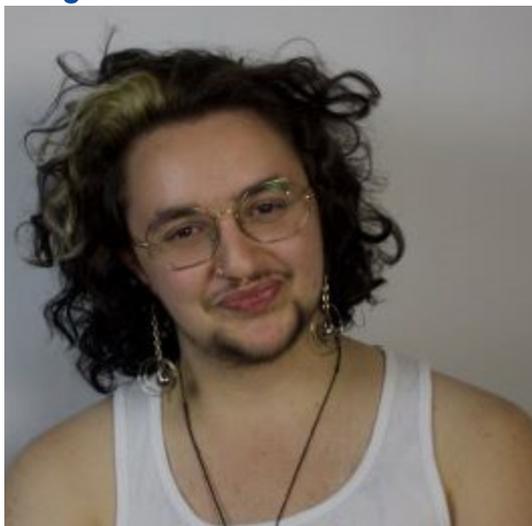
offered me a place in his organic chemistry class, I leapt at the chance. I was thrilled to attend his lectures, and my appreciation for chemistry only grew in the second semester in Dr. Kennedy's class (although bringing my cats to the Zoom lectures may have helped). A few months later, I began working in Dr. Kennedy's lab, where I stayed for the rest of my time at UR. While working with Dr. Kennedy, I had the opportunity to dabble in a huge variety of lab techniques and had the memorable experience of, intentionally or not, making a chemical that was every color of the rainbow. When I wasn't working in the lab or taking yet another chemistry class, I had the pleasure of being a workshop leader for several courses and being the vice president of the Undergraduate Chemistry Society. Along the way, I was awarded the McCreary Prize, Chemistry Department Award, and the Whiteman Teaching Award. My chemistry career will continue on next year, as I pursue a chemistry Ph.D. at Cornell. I would like to take this moment to thank all of my professors, especially Dr. Rose Kennedy and Dr. Rudi Fasan, for all the opportunities they gave me.

# Lily Neugebauer

Some accomplishments of my past four years include working as a Study Group Leader at the Teaching Learning Center concentrating in Biology, Chemistry, and Public Health. I've also worked as a Lab Technician for the Portman Lab at the Medical Center and assisted postdocs with their neuroscience research. I'm also a double Chem major with a minor in music. I recently had the honors of conducting our school's Symphony Orchestra and directing for Off Broadway On Campus. I've also served as the Music Interest Floor President and Sigma Psi Zeta Central Council Representative advocating for music education and Asian American representation. I hope to continue my passion for sharing music and activism while pursuing a Master's in Genetic Counseling. Thank you for everyone who's supported me along this journey.



# Rylee Stuart Neumann



Rylee Stuart Neumann focused largely on theory and computation during his chemistry studies. In the U of R chemistry department, he served as an TA for multiple lab classes, and has performed research under both Prof. Bill Jones and Prof. Ignacio Franco. He is grateful for the opportunity to have worked with both of these incredible mentors. He was also privileged to present his research on spectral simulation at the ACS NERM conference in Fall 2022. Outside of the university, he works as a decorator at Cheesy Eddie's bakery, takes part in many of Rochester's queer events and spaces, and takes care of his really loud cat. After graduation, Rylee plans to continue his scientific career in quantum chemistry and computing.

# Erin Christine

## O'Kane

At the University of Rochester, I earned B.S. and B.A. degrees in Optical Engineering and Chemistry. For the past two years, I have been a member of Professor Todd Krauss' laboratory, researching spectroscopy on quantum dots and nanoplatelets. Through my extensive coursework and mentorship from Professor Julie Bentley, I have become very passionate about optical system and lens design.

I won the Robert S. Hilbert Memorial Optical Design Competition by Synopsys Inc. for designing a 1.4 numerical aperture microscope objective. For the past three years, I have been a workshop leader or teaching assistant for nine courses, including optics and chemistry laboratories and lectures. I am an active member of the Tau Beta Pi Engineering Honors Society and am a recent inductee in the Order of the Engineer and Phi Beta Kappa. Outside of academics, I was the principal cellist for the University of Rochester Symphony Orchestra since my sophomore year. This summer, I will be working an optical design internship at Jenoptik Inc in Jupiter, Florida. This fall, I will be attending Duke University to pursue a Ph.D. in Biomedical Engineering in the laboratory of Dr. Adam Wax. Thank you to my friends and family for your continuous support over the past four years!



# Aliza Panjwani



“ During my time at URI I was involved in Mock Trial, Kappa Delta Sorority, and Panhellenic Council. I also worked as a licensing assistant with the Technology Transfer Office and wrote my senior thesis based on my research with the HEDP-T group at LLE. Thank you to my parents and brother for seeing me through the college process. ”

# Camden Reid Parker

“ I pursued my interest in organic chemistry as a researcher in the Partridge Group. In addition to studying chemistry, I took classes in chemical engineering, math, and music theory. I performed in the Rock Repertory Ensemble as well as the No Jackets Required club. After graduation I will be working in the chemical industry in New England. ”



# Jacob Ritterman



My time at the University of Rochester has not only allowed me to grow as a student, but grow as an individual as well. I have stepped into several leadership roles, including President of Alpha Epsilon Pi and helping my friends start up and compete in the Division II club lacrosse. I am forever grateful to Dr. Jones for giving me the opportunity to work in his lab and grow my knowledge in Chemistry. As a freshman, I came to the University as a Biology major but soon changed after taking Organic Chemistry with Dr. Hafensteiner. This fall I will be scribing at the Colorectal Surgery Unit at Sawgrass, and I plan to apply to medical school next year.

# Hannah Shanley

I am graduating as a double major with a B.A. in both Chemistry and Psychology. Here at the University of Rochester, I have been on the Dean's list all semesters. I have been an Organic Chemistry workshop leader for Professors Fasan and Haffensteiner. I am a part of the Psi Chi Honor Society. For the past three years, I have been a member of Gamma Phi Beta Sorority, as well as Alpha Phi Omega Community Service Fraternity. Here at the University of Rochester, I have also been employed by the Program of Dance and Movement as an office assistant. After graduation I plan on pursuing a career in medicine.



# Camille E. Stevenson



Throughout the past four years, I have completed a diverse range of courses and will soon graduate with a BA in Chemistry, a BS in Neuroscience, and a minor in Psychology. During my time here at the university I have served as a workshop leader for various courses in biology, chemistry, and neuroscience. Additionally, I have actively participated in extracurricular activities such as the club softball team, and volunteered with organizations including Gates Volunteer Ambulance Service, Alpha Phi Omega service fraternity, Friends of Strong, and GlobeMed. I worked as an undergraduate research assistant in Dr. Mark Noble's lab, gaining valuable knowledge while conducting oncology research. I've recently been inducted into Phi Beta Kappa, was awarded the ACS Undergraduate Award in Analytical Chemistry, and have been on the Dean's list the past four years. The next 2 years I will be working as a lab technician in Dr. Mayer-Proschel lab at URMCC conducting Alzheimer's research and working part time as a PCT at Unity Hospital, with an end goal of applying to medical school further down the road.

# Tong Sun



Here at the University of Rochester, I'm truly lucky to join Professor Kathryn Knowles' group, researching physical chemistry with all my loving group members. I even lost my enthusiasm for chemistry due to thousands of coursework and essays, but all my group members helped me with basic chemistry knowledge, giving me suggestions, and supporting me to research in my own direction. I deeply experienced how surprising science/chemistry can be! And I got my M.S. program offer for chem in U of R! I will proceed with this science way further at the University of Rochester.

## Luci

## Vosatka

Luci is graduating with a BA in Chemistry and their favorite class was Chemistry of Poisons! When not in class they could be found playing Magic: The Gathering with University of Rochester Simulation Gaming Club or spending time with the Eastman Queer Alliance! Luci after graduation plans on working to become a high school chemistry teacher to encourage the future chemists of the world.



# Jialong Wang



Throughout my undergraduate journey at the University of Rochester, I made several pivotal decisions and embraced various changes. Initially, I planned to major in biochemistry, but after taking a gap year that spanned a year and a half due to remote instruction during

the COVID pandemic, I switched to a chemistry major with a mathematics minor. This change in direction led me to discover my passion for research in the realm of theoretical chemistry, mentored by Professor Pengfei Huo. I also have contributed as a lab TA, study group leader, and tutor in the chemistry department. I'm deeply grateful to Prof. Huo, Ph.D. student Braden Weight, and all the members of the Huo Group, all of whom have been instrumental in my senior thesis work. In April, I presented "Cavity-Modified Diels-Alder Reactions: Exploring the Polaronic Ground State with Quantum Electrodynamics." Though my thesis is nascent, I'm eager to continue my exploration next semester. Switching from the Class of 2022 to 2023, I've formed treasured bonds with many chemistry peers. I extend sincere gratitude to my family, friends, and chemistry department professors for their unwavering support. Heartfelt thanks to Ruthy, Mingze, and Shinonome for emotional strength outside academia. Upon graduating in December 2023, I contemplate graduate studies to further my chemistry research, proving "Non terrae plus ultra" - there are no limits in this thrilling field.

# Xijue Wu

My journey in chemistry began in Fall 2019, when I enrolled in Freshman Organic Chemistry without yet being certain if chemistry was the right path for me. As I struggled with the subject matter, I was fortunate to receive guidance and encouragement from Prof. Rose Kennedy, who ultimately invited me to join her research group. Despite the pandemic delaying the start of my research until Fall 2021, I was grateful to have the support of Prof. Kennedy, Dr. Abhishek Kadam, and my graduate student mentor Medina Afandiyeva to help me begin my work on olefin difunctionalization catalyzed by Nickel(0) complexes. Through the Schwartz Discover Grant, I was able to continue working with my inclusive, diverse, and supportive research group, which resulted in a collaborative publication. Thanks to the flexibility and freedom offered by the chemistry program, I was able to take on the role of

teaching assistant for Physical Chemistry I (CHEM 251; Prof. Todd Krauss), as well as enrolled in several graduate level courses. Along the way, I was honored to receive the Discover Grant fellowship, Chatherine Block Memorial prize, Junior Scholar Award, and ACS Award in Organic Chemistry. I am grateful for Kennedy Lab members, so many exceptional professors, and department facilities. As I am entering my Take 5 year, I am excited to explore new areas of chemistry and continue to learn and grow as a researcher. I look forward to the adventure that awaits me in graduate school.



# Griffin C. Weiner



I am a Chemistry major, Film and Media Studies minor, pre-med student, and a member of the varsity cross country and track and field teams at the University of Rochester. I have accepted a job in Colorado Springs to work as a medical assistant in a doctor's office for the next year while I apply to medical school. My goal is to become a trauma surgeon who works in the emergency department.

# Jiwon Woo



I have been blessed with many invaluable memories from the University of Rochester. From joining a chemistry research group to serving as the president of the pre-dental club, all those moments will always serve as a catalyst to push me harder toward my dream. I would especially like to thank Professor Huo for teaching me how to think like a chemist and Professor Barnett for supporting me while I was in his research group. Even though my journey in chemistry will end upon graduation to pursue a career in dentistry, I'll never be able to fully express how thankful I am for everything that I gained from the chemistry department. I would also like to thank my parents and my brother, Jisoo Woo, for giving me limitless support.

# Ahjin Yoo



I am graduating with a B.A. degree in Chemistry, dedicating most of my time of being an undergraduate student to learning and teaching Chemistry. I worked under Dr. Fasan to teach Organic Chemistry and also under Dr. Neidig's Inorganic/Physical Chemistry laboratory as a learning research assistant. I'm planning on pursuing medicine following graduation.

# Xiaotian Zhang

Xiaotian Zhang will be graduating with a Bachelor of Science degree in chemistry. Starting her junior year, Xiaotian served as an undergraduate research assistant in Dr. Knowles lab studying the synthesis of vanadium dioxide nanocrystals and found her passion in experimental physical chemistry. Xiaotian was also involved outside of the classroom and lab by participating in e-sport and won the China All-Talent Championship by Honor of Kings in Spring 2023. After graduation, Xiaotian plans to pursue a Ph.D degree at Brown University to continue her research in the nano world.



# Zeyuan Zhu

During the summer of my junior year, I began my undergraduate chemistry research project with the esteemed Professor Krauss. My project focused on the synthesis and characterization of manganese-doped CdSe quantum dots for hydrogen production. Through this experience, I developed a deep appreciation for the interdisciplinary nature of research, as well as a passion for physical chemistry.

I am indebted to my mentor, Wes, for his unwavering support and guidance throughout my academic pursuits. I would like to express my gratitude to Professor Krauss, my lab mates, and my loved ones, whose constant support and encouragement have been invaluable to my success. To my parents and friends, thank you for believing in me and providing me with a foundation of unwavering love and support.



# Thakshila Dayananda



Here at the University of Rochester, I started my graduate journey as a chemistry graduate student. I was privileged to be a member of the Fasan lab, which provided me with the opportunity to learn new skills and grow as a researcher. My research was on biocatalytic carbene transfer reactions. The project of protein crystallization focused on crystallizing

and resolving crystal structures of hemoproteins which participate in biocatalytic transformations. I also worked on stereo-divergent synthesis of asymmetric biaryl cyclopropanes using a new carbene precursor. I got the opportunity to share my research and network with other researchers, which I am thankful for. While accomplishing research targets successfully, I completed graduate courses and cumulative exams, which helped me to brush up on my knowledge in different fields of chemistry and stay up to date on the latest science. Also, I have been a graduate teaching assistant for undergraduate chemistry laboratory courses, which I thoroughly enjoyed, allowing me to improve my teaching skills. I am very grateful to Prof. Rudi Fasan for his invaluable guidance and supervision. I would like to thank all faculty, staff, lab mates and colleagues at UofR, who have helped me in many ways. I am very thankful to my family, friends and my partner for their love and support, from the other side of the world. Lastly, I am grateful to all my friends here, who made Rochester a home away from home.

# Nawal Jafari

I joined the University of Rochester as a graduate student in 2021 and am now graduating with a Master's in Chemistry. I had the privilege of working in Professor Rudi Fasan's lab and learned much under his supervision; my work involved research on organic synthesis incorporating Biocatalytic Intramolecular Nitrene transfer reactions and shall soon be published. Thank you to Dr Rudi Fasan for his constant guidance and help in my research. Along with that, I was a teaching assistant for

several chemistry courses that helped improve my teaching skills. The best part of being at UoR has been making new connections with people from all over the world—people with different backgrounds but similar interests in learning and growing together as we pursued our academic goals. These relationships have helped me grow personally and professionally as well as academically and will be invaluable when I join the workforce. A huge thanks to my family for their constant support and love from across the continent. Lastly, a special thanks to my husband for all his love, moral support, and understanding.

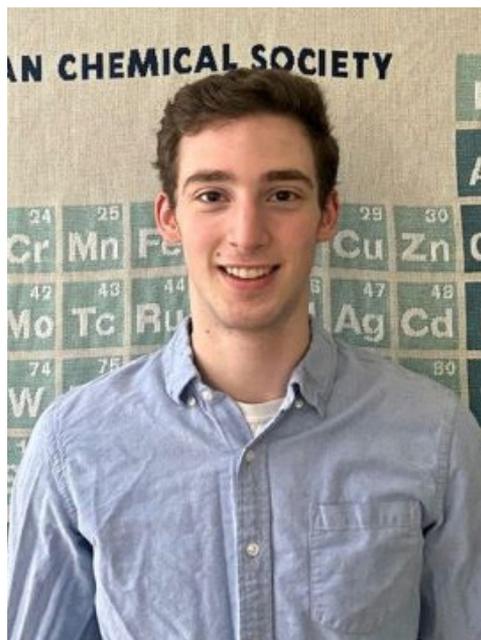


# Yeuheng (Sam) Min



Sam graduated with a 4-year chemistry degree in 2022 and continued at the University in the 5-year MS program.

# Ryan Pohorenc



In 2018, Ryan received the Bausch and Lomb Honorary Science Award and the New York State (NYS) Scholarship for Academic Excellence to attend the University of Rochester. There, he completed a Bachelor of Science (BS) degree in chemistry while researching homogeneous transition metal catalysis for C–H activation. Ryan received the University of Rochester Department of Chemistry's Junior Scholar Award in 2021 and Carl A. Whiteman Jr. Teaching Award in 2022. Completing his baccalaureate studies in 2022, he continued studying organometallic chemistry during his Master of Science research. Ryan will begin his training as a physician scientist (MD-PhD) in the fall of 2023 and plans to study medicinal chemistry.

# Undergraduate Awards

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## **Dr. E.W. and Maude V. Flagg Award:**

### **Ellen Irving**

Established in 1982 as an endowed fund by Dr. John J. Flagg ('36), this award recognizes outstanding performance and promise in chemistry by a graduating senior. The recipient is selected by a faculty committee appointed by the chair of the Department of Chemistry.

## **John McCreary Memorial Prize:**

### **Daniel Nakamura**

The John McCreary Memorial Fund was established in 1985 in tribute to the high academic and scientific standards and the personal dedication of John James McCreary. McCreary received his bachelor of science degree in chemistry with high distinction from the University of Rochester in 1975. John's career maintained its exemplary character until his untimely death in 1983. The award is given to an outstanding senior undergraduate student.

## **Chemistry Department Awards:**

**Loren Cardani**

**Aiden Kropiwnicki**

**Elise Gendrich**

**Daniel Nakamura**

The Chemistry Department Awards are given to seniors in recognition of outstanding scholarship in the study of chemistry.



# American Chemical Society (ACS) Awards

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## **Inorganic Chemistry Award:**

**Xiaotian Zhang**

This award is given to a student who is selected by the faculty on the basis of outstanding academic achievement in inorganic chemistry.

## **Organic Chemistry Award:**

**Xijue Wu**

This award is given to a student who is selected by the faculty on the basis of outstanding academic achievement in organic chemistry.

## **Analytical Chemistry Award:**

**Camille Stevenson**

This award is given to a student who is selected by the faculty on the basis of outstanding academic achievement in analytical chemistry.

## **Physical Chemistry Award:**

**Zeyuan Zhu**

This award is given to a student who is selected by the faculty on the basis of outstanding academic achievement in physical chemistry.

## **Rochester Section's Outstanding**

## **Achievement Award:**

**Ellen Irving**

This award is given to a senior with an outstanding academic record and consists of a cash prize, recognition during the ACS Annual Rochester Section Undergraduate Research Symposium, and the inclusion of the awardee's name on a plaque displayed in the department.

## Teaching Awards

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### **Carl A. Whiteman, Jr. Award:**

**Loren Cardani**

**Daniel Nakamura**

**Elise Gendrich**

**Aliza Panjwani**

This award recognizes exemplary teaching by an undergraduate student in the Department of Chemistry. Carl Whiteman graduated from the University of Rochester in 1950 (BS, Physics) and worked continuously in the department until his retirement in 1986. His enthusiasm and dedication to laboratory teaching made him a legendary figure among undergraduate chemistry majors. Whiteman continued his association with the department until his death in 2007. This honor recognizes his teaching excellence, as well as that of the recipients.

## College Awards

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### **Janet Howell Clark Prize:**

**Xijue Wu**

The Janet Howell Clark Prize is awarded annually to a senior woman who has shown the greatest promise in creative work in one of the following fields – Physics, Chemistry, Biology, or Astronomy – and has shown outstanding versatility in the mastery of allied fields. Selection is based on recommendations by the respective departments, which are evaluated by a committee appointed by the Dean of the College.

# Keep in Touch!

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