

## **Announcement of the 2022-2023 Undergraduate Student Research Grant Awards:**

This year, we had eighteen proposals, requesting over \$12,000. Our mission was to award only significant grants rather than small, partial awards. The maximum amount of the grant is \$750. The RAS Grants Committee awarded a total of \$5750 for ten research projects. The maximum awards were \$700 so that we could fund as many proposals as possible.

First place: full funding plus \$50 to the student.

Gabriella Orfanides, Rochester Institute of Technology. Heat Shock Proteins as a Physiological Stress Metric of Migrating Songbirds. Award: \$700. Sponsor: Susan Smith Pagano, Ph.D.

Amaya Bechler, Cornell University. Characterizing variation in gut microbiome composition and diet from breeding through molt in the migratory black-throated blue warbler. Award: (full funding) \$500. Sponsor: Sara Kaiser, Ph.D.

Charly Campanella, St. John Fisher University. Investigating the role of TET2 in human erythropoiesis using CRISPR/Cas9. Award: \$400. Sponsor: Zachary Murphy, Ph.D.

Derek Emrich, Rochester Institute of Technology. Development and optimization of a parallel poly(A) duplex-based poly(rA)-tailed mRNA purification method. Award: \$600. Sponsor: Mike Gleghorn, Ph.D.

Samantha Geis, Cornell University. Uncovering neuronal populations associated with aggressive behavior in *Danio rerio*. Award: \$400.00. Sponsor: Andrew Bass, Ph.D.

Adam Graziano, SUNY Brockport. Quantifying the presence of the allelopathic compound, emodin in local samples of *Fallopia japonica* and its effect on the growth of native plants. Award: \$600. Sponsor: Kathryn Amatangelo, Ph.D.

Aidan Lynch, Rochester Institute of Technology. X-Ray Crystallography of the Nudix Hydrolase Rv2985, a Potential Antibiotic Target in *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*. Award: \$700. Sponsor: Suzanne O'Handley, Ph.D. & Michael Gleghorn, Ph.D.

Isabelle Pilo, Rochester Institute of Technology. Inhibiting the Interaction Between Peptidoglycan-Associated Lipoprotein and TolB Proteins. Award: \$600. Sponsor: Lea Vacca Michel, Ph.D.

Braeden Thomson, Cornell University. Oxidative costs and constraints of territory quality on reproductive effort in male black-throated blue warblers. Award: \$700. Sponsor: Sara Kaiser, Ph.D.

Noor Zamamiri, Syracuse University.  $\beta$ -Glucosidase Expression in Poplar. Award: \$500. Sponsor: Heather Coleman, Ph.D.

All of the money for the grants this year was from the Undergraduate Student Research Grants Fund.