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SIPES Foundation awards \$30,000 in academic scholarships

Richardson, TX - The SIPES Foundation, overseeing the scientific, educational, and charitable programs of the Society of Independent Professional Earth Scientists (SIPES), announces that six outstanding earth science and engineering students have been selected to receive scholarship awards this year. Applications were accepted from currently enrolled, upper-division and graduate-level students studying any field of earth science or engineering, and who have a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or higher. Scholarships are awarded based on financial need and academic achievement.

Receiving a \$5,000 award from the Marvolene Speed Bennett and Carleton D. Speed, Jr. Endowed Fund is **Thomas Schwartz**, an undergraduate student in petroleum engineering at Texas A&M University. Receiving a \$5,000 award from the Stephen E. Collins Memorial Scholarship Fund is **James Barker, Jr.**, studying for an MS in geology at the University of Texas at El Paso. Receiving a \$5,000 award from the Edward A. McCullough Endowed Fund is **Matthew Meador**, an undergraduate student in geology at Texas Tech University.

Also receiving \$5,000 awards are: **Alexey Moussikhine**, an undergraduate student in geology at the University of Arkansas; **Clayton Hedges**, pursuing an MS in geology at Oklahoma State University; and **Leonardo Rodriguez**, an undergraduate student in petroleum engineering at Texas Tech University.

Since its founding in 1981, the SIPES Foundation has awarded scholarships to 293 promising earth science and engineering students. Funding for the 2025 awards was made possible through generous donations from SIPES members, bequests from the Foundation's endowed funds (above), and from designated gifts from the SIPES members and chapters. The SIPES Foundation also conducts educational seminars, contributes funding to earth science publications and continuing education programs, and maintains a library of earth science films.

SIPES is a national organization of more than 700 self-employed geologists, geophysicists and engineers engaged primarily in domestic energy exploration and development. SIPES has twelve chapters located in oil and gas centers of the United States. Applications for the SIPES Foundation Scholarships are available on the SIPES website annually in January.

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