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## **NEWTON TEEN AWARDED \$25,000 FOR RESEARCH IN COMPLEX ANALYSIS** **Felix Wang to be Named a 2017 Davidson Fellow**

Reno, Nev. – The Davidson Institute of Talent Development has announced the 2017 Davidson Fellows. Among the honorees is 18-year-old Felix Wang of Newton. Wang won a \$25,000 Davidson Fellows Scholarship for his project, *Functional Equations In Complex Analysis and Number Theory*. He is one of only 20 students across the country to receive this honor.

“I am unbelievably excited and honored to be a Davidson Fellow,” said Wang. “Mathematics has fascinated me since childhood. In middle school, I spent countless hours poring over textbooks in preparation for various math competitions, but by the time I reached high school, my interest in learning math to win competitions had faded. I searched for a more challenging and more fulfilling way to use my talents, and decided to attempt mathematics research.”

Wang’s research primarily focuses on an important problem from the field of complex analysis: to solve a specific equation of functions and to characterize the set of solutions. The mathematician Ritt solved a far simpler version of this question in 1923; his results yielded advancements in various other fields, ranging from number theory to dynamical systems. Wang’s project enhances Ritt’s techniques to extend and improve his results. He hopes that his results will also spawn advancements in other mathematical fields.

Wang’s academic interests are in math, computer science and economics. Outside of school, he enjoys playing soccer, Frisbee, and spikeball, and he also plays the piano.

Wang will attend Stanford University in the fall, and plans to major in either computer science or math.

“We are thrilled to recognize the 2017 Davidson Fellows not only for their incredible projects, but also for the journey they forged to reach this point,” said Bob Davidson, founder of the Davidson Institute. “Every year I am amazed by the depth of the Fellows’ accomplishments. Through encouragement and recognition, the Davidson Institute for Talent Development anticipates that gifted students like these will be among the pioneers who will solve the world’s most vexing problems.”

The 2017 Davidson Fellows will be honored at a reception in Washington, D.C., on September 27.

The Davidson Fellows Scholarship program offers \$50,000, \$25,000 and \$10,000 college scholarships to students 18 or younger, who have completed significant projects that have the potential to benefit society in the fields of science, technology, engineering, mathematics, literature and music. The Davidson Fellows Scholarship has provided more than \$7.1 million in scholarship funds to more than 300 students since its inception in 2001, and has been named one of the most prestigious undergraduate scholarships by *U.S. News & World Report*. It is a program of the Davidson Institute for Talent Development, a national nonprofit organization headquartered in Reno, Nev. that supports profoundly gifted youth.

### **About the Davidson Institute**

Founded by Bob Davidson in 1999, the Davidson Institute for Talent Development recognizes, nurtures and supports profoundly intelligent young people, and provides opportunities for them to develop their talents to make a positive difference. The Institute offers support through a number of programs and services, including the Davidson Fellows Scholarship and the [Davidson Academy of Nevada](http://www.DavidsonAcademyofNevada.org). For more information about the 2017 Davidson Fellows, please visit [www.DavidsonGifted.org/Fellows-Scholarship](http://www.DavidsonGifted.org/Fellows-Scholarship).

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*High-resolution photos are available at [www.DavidsonGifted.org](http://www.DavidsonGifted.org).*