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**CHANDLER TEEN AWARDED \$25,000 FOR A LOW-COST LIFE DETECTION SYSTEM FOR  
FIRST RESPONDERS**  
**Sachin Konan to be Named a 2018 Davidson Fellow**

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Chandler, Ariz. – The Davidson Institute for Talent Development has announced the 2018 Davidson Fellows. Among the honorees is 17-year-old Sachin Konan of Chandler. Konan won a \$25,000 Davidson Fellows Scholarship for his project, *A Low-Costs, Clutter-Cancelling Life Detection System for First Response After Natural Disasters*. He is one of only 20 students across the country to receive this honor.

“The recognition of my work in the Davidson Fellows program is a tremendous honor as it further confirms the importance of pursuing engineering to create new ideas that will benefit society,” said Konan.

Konan’s project addressed the recovery of buried earthquake victims after natural disasters. After watching news of first-response teams searching for buried victims in the 2015 Nepal earthquake, he was motivated to build a system capable of detecting humans through rubble. Konan designed a 2.4 GHz Doppler radar with active clutter cancellation and signal processing algorithms. The end system is capable of sensing humans through as much as 1 meter of concrete and 1.5 meters of brick.

At Hamilton High School, Konan participated in the First Robotics Competition and a Formula1-car design competition. He also volunteers as a student mentor for several regional First Lego League robotics teams and at the local senior center. Konan plans to focus more on data analytics and artificial intelligence research in order to build smarter devices that can help society solve problems.

“We are thrilled to recognize the 2018 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 2018 Davidson Fellows will be honored at a reception in Washington, D.C., on Friday, September 28.

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 \$7.5 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](#). For more information about the 2018 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/Fellows-Scholarship](http://www.DavidsonGifted.org/Fellows-Scholarship).*