CPAD 2026
GIRA Awards

GIRA 2026

- **This year we had 21 excellent proposals for the Graduate Instrumentation Research Award**
  - Due to unexpected delays, we only reached the outcome on awards this week, so unfortunately we won't have talks at the conference from the awardees
    - We will invite the awardees to present at CPAD next year!
- **This award is only made possible through the support of the DOE instrumentation program and its impact into the community is clear and large**
  - 15 awards from 2018 - 2025
  - There were a number of talks from current and past GIRA awardees at this conference and we continue to see previous awardees starting to transition to their next phase of their careers and make impact in the instrumentation community
- **Additionally, for the second year in a row, a third award this year (potentially only this year) has been made possible through the support and engagement of the Quantum Information Science (QIS) program through the coordination with Zachary Goff-Eldredge and Helmut Marsiske**
  - All awardees have been contacted and we look forward to seeing progress in the coming years
- **This kind of promotion and prioritization to support early career researchers is one of the reasons CPAD exists and we want to thank everyone for continuing to support this award with a special thanks to Helmut Marsiske and Zachary Goff-Eldredge for prioritizing the support of early-career instrumentation!**

GIRA 2026 Awardees

- **Hafez Ali** *(*University of South Dakota)**:** *Cryogenic Characterization of Digital Silicon Photomultipliers and Their High-Energy and Nuclear Physics Applications*

- **Alain Fauquex** (UC Berkeley) *From a Handful to a Focal Plane: Scaling SQUAT Arrays for BREAD*



- **Siddhant Mehrotra** (Yale University) *Levitated Solid Xenon Sensors for Nuclear Decay Detection: A Pathfinder Toward Sterile Neutrino Searches*

