YOUNG INVESTIGATORS.
BOLD IDEAS. BRIGHTER FUTURES.

2026 SCIENTIFIC FORUM

Prevent Blindness Ohio

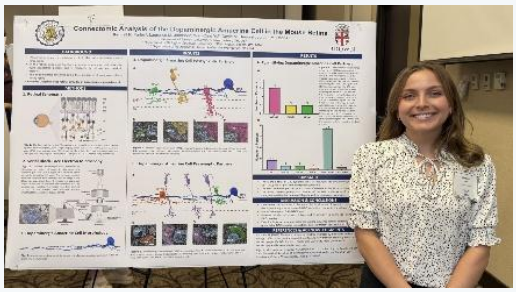
See how emerging research could help shape the future of vision health.

DATE	TIME	LOCATION
Monday, November 9, 2026	11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	Online via Microsoft Teams

Hear from the 2026 recipients of the Prevent Blindness Ohio Young Investigator Student Fellowship Awards for Female Scholars in Vision Research and discover how their research could help shape the future of vision health.

RESERVE YOUR PLACE TODAY >

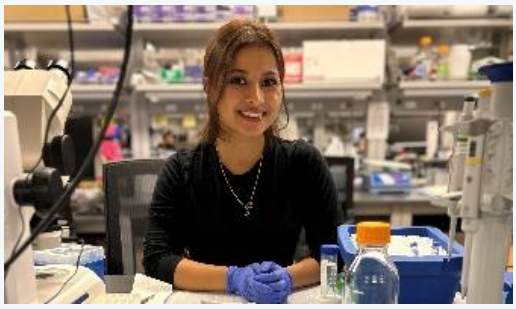
MEET THE 2026 PRESENTERS



Kendall Farley

THE UNIVERSITY OF AKRON

Kendall Farley is pursuing a master's degree in biology in the Department of Biology and Visual Neuroscience at The University of Akron. Her research investigates the synaptic connectivity of dopaminergic amacrine cells (DACs). By defining the ultrastructural circuitry through which DACs operate, she aims to establish a foundation for earlier diagnostic biomarkers and therapeutic interventions for vision-threatening conditions. Her work may also advance understanding of dopamine-mediated retinal signaling and its relevance to visual dysfunction and neurodegenerative disease.



Roja Sharma

CLEVELAND STATE UNIVERSITY

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Roja Sharma is a doctoral candidate in Regulatory Biology in the Department of Biological, Geological and Environmental Sciences at Cleveland State University. Her research examines molecular mechanisms that prevent or delay the onset of age-related diseases. Integrating genetics, molecular biology and behavioral assays, her work addresses questions relevant to vision loss and age-related eye disease.

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2027

Apply for the 2027 Fellowship

View fellowship information and application details

Questions? Contact lauras@pbohio.org