

WELCOME TO THE



THERMOSET TOPCON

Madison, Wisconsin • May 17-18, 2022

Presented by SPE Thermoset Division

[SPETHERMOSETS.ORG/TOPCON](https://spethermosets.org/topcon)

THANK YOU TO OUR 2022 SPONSORS



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INDUSTRY NEWS: How PlastiVan® is Making a Difference Eve Vitale, SPE Foundation

BIO: Eve Vitale is Chief Executive at the SPE Foundation which supports the development of plastics professionals by funding quality educational programs, grants, and scholarships, emphasizing science, engineering, sustainability, and manufacturing while working to create inclusive opportunities for students around the world. She has 10+ years' experience in STEM-education and non-profit development and leads the PlastiVan®, a national plastics education program for K-12 students. PlastiVan works to change the perception of plastics one classroom at a time through positive plastics education and material sustainability while encouraging students to consider the industry they've never heard of – plastics – as a career path. Ms. Vitale has degrees in mechanical and manufacturing engineering and has worked as a consultant in recycled materials and plastics sustainability.

ABSTRACT: Through positive plastics education the SPE Foundation has developed unique programs to overcome the high hurdles of successful workforce development in the plastics industry which is an invisible entity to children. Product ideation, design and manufacture is also a foreign concept to students. To impel the next generation to consider Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) careers along the whole value chain, we must introduce the joy of science, engineering, and manufacturing early and often. In addition, under-resourced, under-represented populations in STEM need equity-building opportunities which require commitment and collaboration. To make progress, we must be willing to think big, start small and stay in it for the long haul. Eve's talk will demonstrate how to:

- Build partnerships with community-based organizations
- Develop strong key performance indicators for programming and think like an investor
- Assemble strong mentoring networks



FOUNDATION

supports the development of plastics professionals by funding quality educational programs, grants, and scholarships emphasizing science, engineering, sustainability, and manufacturing while working to create inclusive opportunities for students around the world.



Eve Vitale

SPE Foundation

foundation@4spe.org

YOUR WORK MATTERS



\$202,850

in scholarships awarded to



51

students at



31

universities



\$88,000

total grant dollars awarded



\$34,367

raised from SPE membership renewal donations



\$499,000

generously given to support the work of the SPE Foundation

52 *donors gave more than*

\$25,500

for After-School SPE STEM Clubs on Giving Tuesday

27 *donors gave*

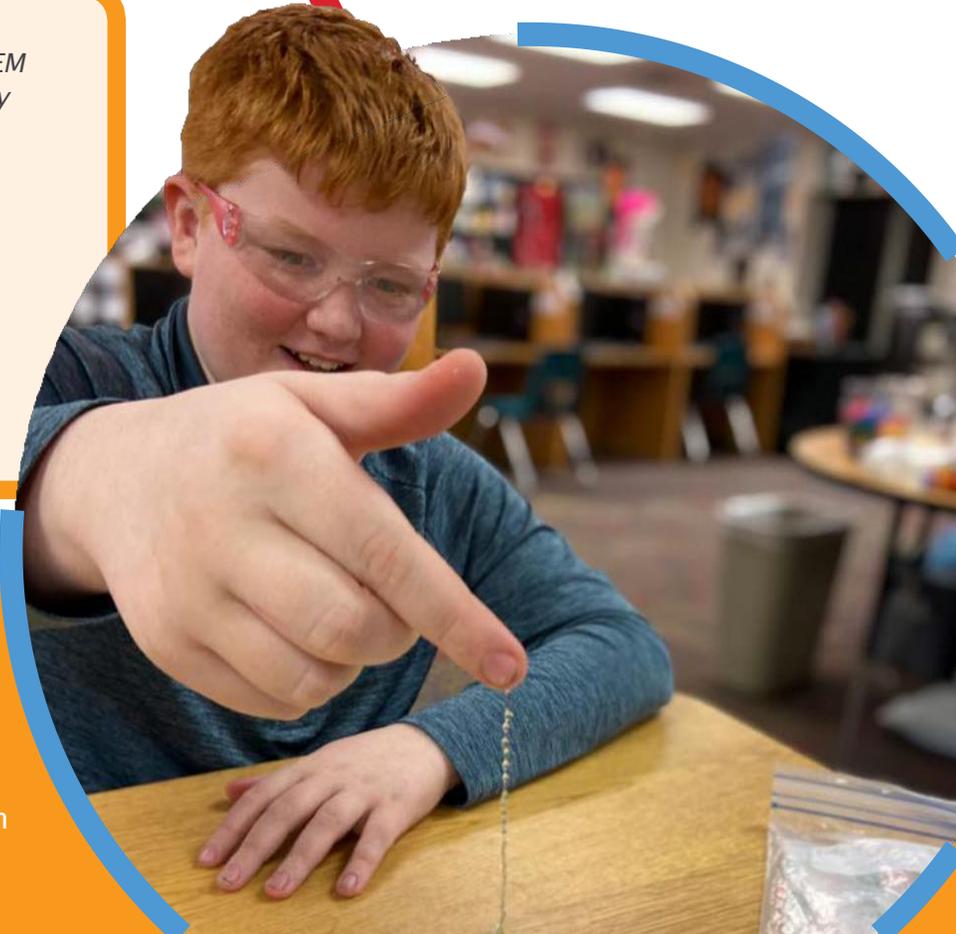
\$10,275

for scholarships on June Giving Day

PlastiVan® and PlastiVideo™ served over

12,250 students

on 2 continents, 2 countries, 15 states, 51 cities



**THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING
AND INSPIRING FUTURE PLASTICS
PROFESSIONALS**

For more information on how you can support positive plastics education and workforce development, contact us at foundation@4spe.org.

We accomplish our mission through

**GRANTS,
SCHOLARSHIPS, &
POSITIVE PLASTICS
EDUCATION**

- Changing the perception of plastics one classroom at a time
- Encouraging **S**cience, **E**ngineering & **T**echnology education and careers (**STEM**)
- Addressing sustainability and the environment



YOUR WORK MATTERS

spwe
Support the Future of Plastics



DR. JACKIE REHKOPF ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIP

To create a legacy that honors Dr. Jackie Rehkopf brilliance the SPE Automotive and Composites Divisions are working toward a \$100,000 endowment to fund an annual \$5,000 scholarship for a full-time graduate student whose research focuses on ground transportation composite technology.



I am honored to receive the SPE Automotive & Composites Division Dr. Jackie Rehkopf Scholarship. ACCE has provided a great opportunity to establish professional connections. Thank you again for your generous support.

Sara Andrea Simon PhD candidate at the Polymer Engineering Center (PEC), University of Wisconsin-Madison



”

Each year, many SPE chapters award scholarships named after friends and colleagues from the plastics industry. If you are interested in creating a scholarship to honor your friend or colleague and assist our future plastics professionals, contact us at foundation@4spe.org.



changing the perception of plastics one classroom at a time

Sponsored in part by Braskem

PlastiVan had to roll with the flow of the continuing COVID challenges in 2021. Fortunately, our PlastiVideo resources helped us to visit classrooms serving up multiple days of positive plastics education and we were able to get into the classroom during the lulls in the pandemic.



110
TOTAL
VISITS

Dakar, Senegal,
Africa



12,250 STUDENTS
impacted by PlastiVan & PlastiVideo

Thank you to our generous 2021 PlastiVan and PlastiVideo sponsors:

- | | |
|---|------------------------------------|
| Bekum America Corporation | SPE Akron Section |
| Braskem | SPE Automotive Section |
| Chicago SPE Educational Foundation | SPE Blow Molding Division |
| Colortech | SPE Chicago Section |
| Chevron Phillips Chemical | SPE Color and Appearance Division |
| Davis-Standard | SPE Composites Division |
| iD Additives | SPE Detroit Section |
| John Deere | SPE Milwaukee Education Foundation |
| LB Worldwide | SPE Palisades-Mid Atlantic Section |
| Plastics Industry Association | SPE Thermoforming Division |
| Plastics Pioneers Association | |
| SPE Additives and Color Europe Division | |





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“I strongly believe that the only way to encourage innovation is to give it to the young. The young have a great advantage in that they are ignorant. Because I think ignorance in science is very important. If you’re like me and you know too much you can’t try new things.”

Sydney Brenner, Nobel Prize winner on innovative thinking



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IMPACT REPORT 2021

www.SPEFoundation.org

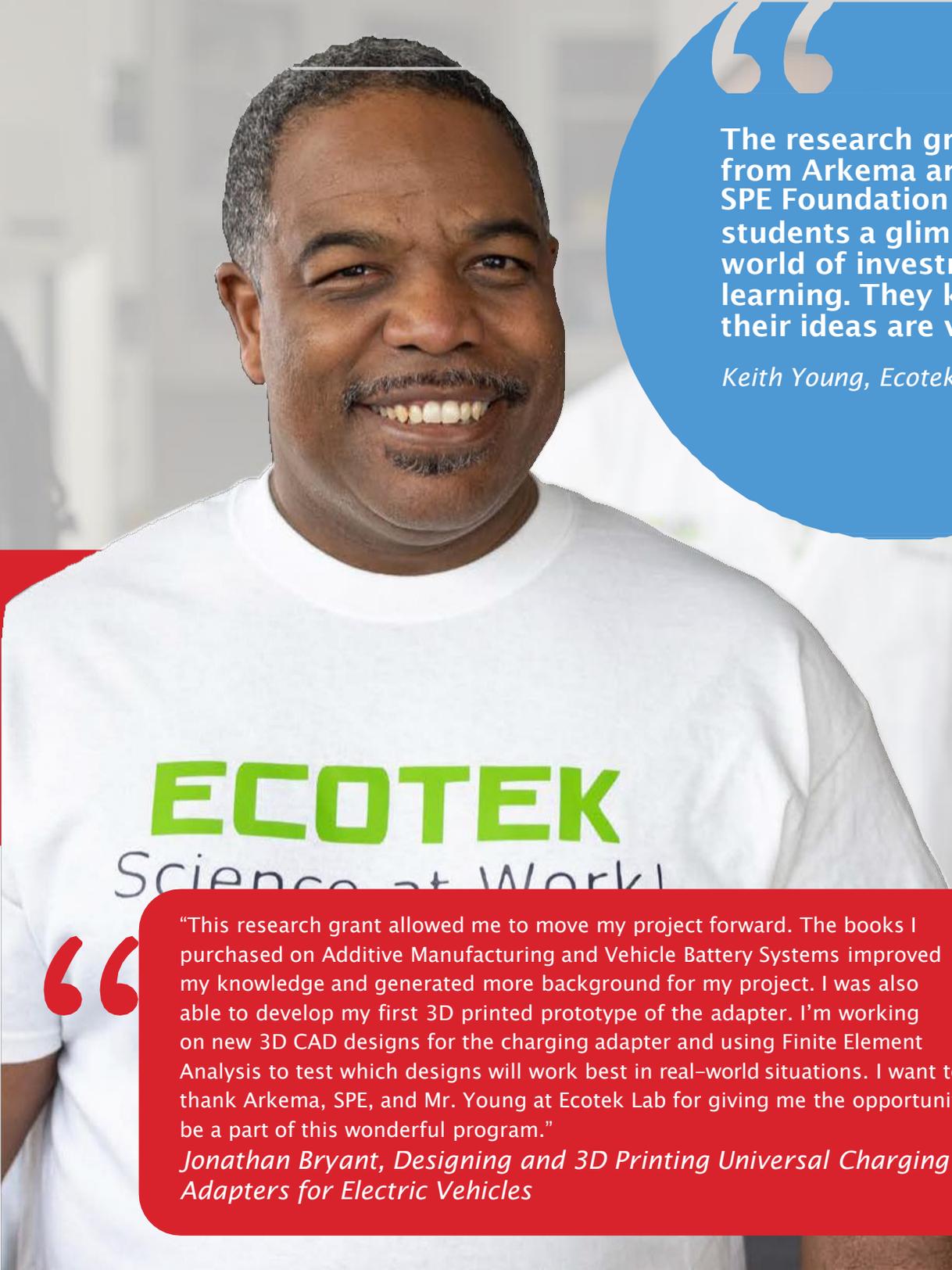


Jonathan Bryant and Victoria Hatchett
Ecotek Lab Students, Detroit
Recipients of Arkema Junior Research Awards

YOUR WORK MATTERS



Support the Future of Plastics



The research grant support from Arkema and the SPE Foundation provides students a glimpse into the world of investment-driven learning. They know that their ideas are valued.

Keith Young, Ecotek Labs, CEO



"This research grant allowed me to move my project forward. The books I purchased on Additive Manufacturing and Vehicle Battery Systems improved my knowledge and generated more background for my project. I was also able to develop my first 3D printed prototype of the adapter. I'm working on new 3D CAD designs for the charging adapter and using Finite Element Analysis to test which designs will work best in real-world situations. I want to thank Arkema, SPE, and Mr. Young at Ecotek Lab for giving me the opportunity to be a part of this wonderful program."

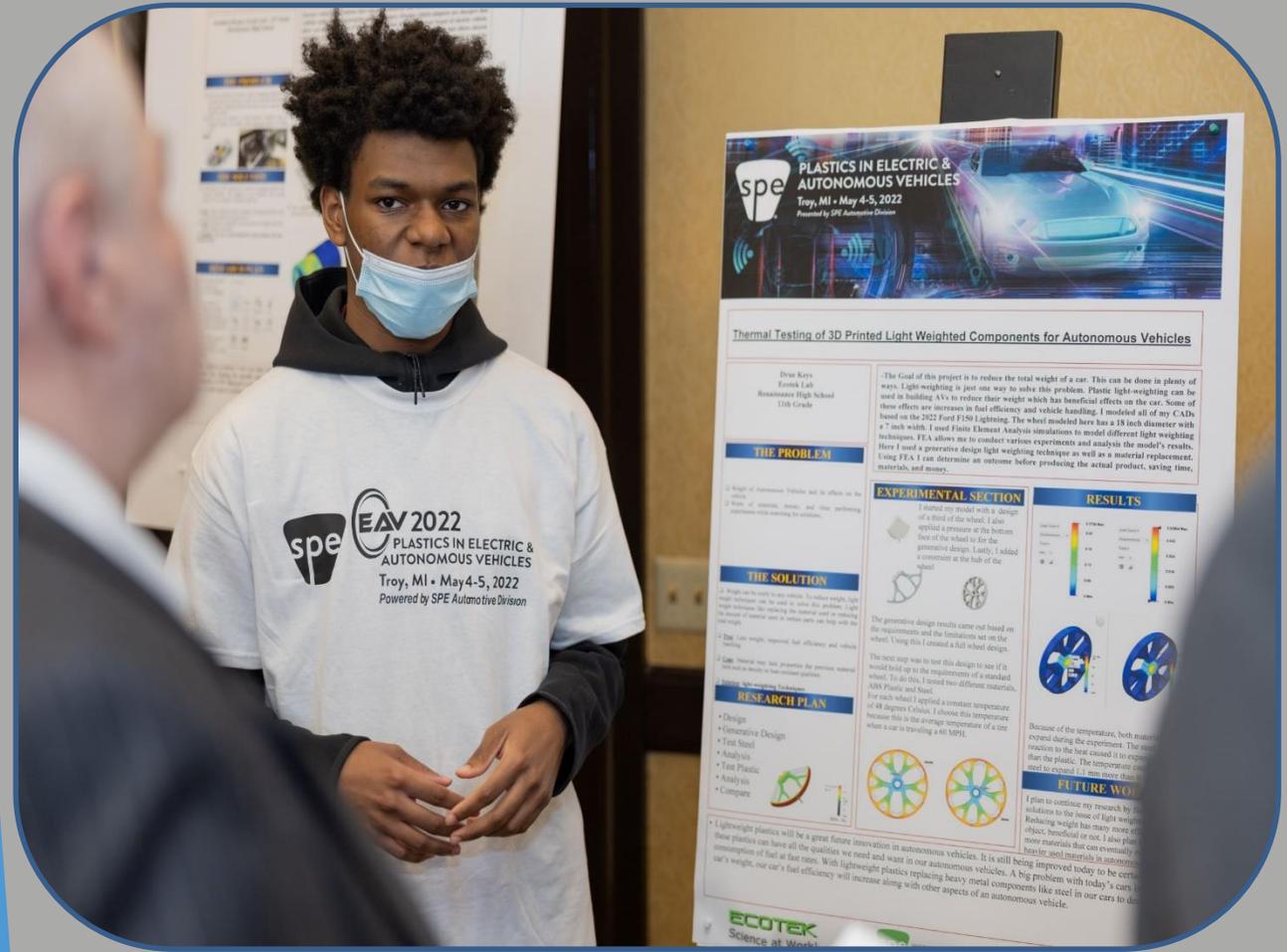
Jonathan Bryant, Designing and 3D Printing Universal Charging Adapters for Electric Vehicles

SPE AUTOMOTIVE DIVISION CONFERENCE PLASTICS IN EAV CONFERENCE

Topics included:

- 3D Printing Universal Charging Adapters
- Additive Manufacturing of Lightweight Plastic Chassis Components
- Examining the Mechanical & Conductive Properties of Silicon Carbide Powder
- Using Recycled PET-G to Manufacture Components in Electric Vehicles

High school and middle school Arkema Junior Researchers working with SPE and Ecotek Lab presented relevant posters at the conference



If you are interested in supporting future plastics professionals, email foundation@4spe.org or visit give.4spe.org.

Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion Workforce Development Initiative Metro Detroit

**Positive plastics
education in the
classroom**



PlastiVan/PlastiVideos

ECOTEK

Science at Work!

- **Community Partner**
- **Student Research Experience**
- **Mentoring**
- **Science & Engineering Skills**
- **Networking**
- **15+ Years Success**

**SPE STEM Club
After School**

**Hands-on Plastics STEM
Events**

**SPE Polymer Science
Summer Program**

**Middle & High School
Research Stipends**

**SPE/Ecotek Polymer
Science Fair**

**“Wonders of Plastics”
Essay Contest**

**SPE Events
Industry Field Trips**

College Scholarships

**SPE Lion's
Den STEM
Club,
McKinney
Texas**





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Eve Vitale
810.814.6412



YOUR WORK MATTERS



HELP A STUDENT

Donate to the general scholarship fund to support high achieving students seeking a plastics education.



SPONSOR A VISIT

Expose young students to the wonders of plastics by sponsoring a PlastiVan or PlastiVideo visit.



BECOME A DONOR

Pay forward your success in the plastics industry by becoming a monthly donor. Gifts large and small support the next generation of plastics professionals.



BUILD A LEGACY

Include the SPE Foundation in your trust or will as a meaningful way to help us continue to promote plastics education and support workforce development.



PUT PLASTICS IN THE CLASSROOM

Help us fulfill requests for 3D printers in junior, middle, and high schools by supporting our grants program.



START A MEMORIAL

Remember and recognize someone influential to you or your career by creating a memorial fund to support PlastiVan or a scholarship.



NAME A SCHOLARSHIP

Honor a colleague, friend, professor, or someone important to you by creating an endowed scholarship. These funds provide vital financial support to students seeking a plastics education.



SUPPORT WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Gifts to the SPE Foundation directly impact the next generation of plastics professionals. Your work matters, and your support helps us inspire young students to carry it forward.



MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Support underrepresented and under-resourced students with plastics STEM education by partnering with us on SPE STEM Clubs.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT US AT FOUNDATION@4SPE.ORG