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General Announcements

**MSA Award Deadline Change!!!**

**MSA Awards are now due**

**FEBRUARY 1, 2024**

Make sure to submit on time when you apply for...
- Travel awards
- Research awards
- Fellowships

**MSA Student Spotlight Nominations**

We are **accepting nominations** for our

**STUDENT SPOTLIGHT**

Get featured in our monthly newsletter – it is free and open to everyone!
ARE YOU A POSTDOC INTERESTED IN MSA MEMBERSHIP?

ARE YOU AN UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT WHO IS INTERESTED IN MYCOLOGY?

YOU COULD BE ELIGIBLE TO HAVE YOUR 2024 MSA MEMBERSHIP FEES WAIVED!

Scholarship for Undergrad and Postdoc Recruitment

The MSA Student and Postdoc Section is leading a holiday campaign to recruit new students and postdocs to MSA. If you are an undergraduate student new to MSA, you can apply to have your fees paid for by SPS. If you are a postdoc (new or returning), you can also apply to have fees paid for by SPS.

Application Deadline: Dec 31, 2023
Application Link

Limited funds are available. Applications will be evaluated on a first come first serve basis.
2024 DIGITAL ART CONTEST

Theme: Expanding Networks

Your design could be this year's 2024 MSA SPS design!

Prize
$50 award or your design on a product of your choice

Submission open from January 15th to March 31st, 2024

For questions email: Lluvia Vargas * vargasgl@oregonstate.edu*
Where did you grow up?
West Virginia

Who is your advisor?
Dr. Teresa Pawlowska

Tell us about your project!
I work on fungal immune responses to antagonistic bacteria, using *Rhizopus microsporus* and *Mycetohabitans* spp. as a model.

I’m currently using fluorescence microscopy and flow cytometry to quantify the role of cell wall remodeling in the fungal innate immune response. The mechanism of immunity, particularly in early divergent fungi, is not well understood, but my preliminary work suggests that the cell wall plays an important role.

What is your favorite fungus and why?
*Massospora cicadina*, the lifestyle is fascinating and super weird!

Who is your mycology role model?
My undergraduate PI, Matt Kasson, who went out of his way to create a supportive and nurturing lab where students were able to be themselves.

What do you do outside of research?
Outside of research, I work as a DEI educator through the Cornell chapter of Project Biodiversify. We focus on promoting inclusive practices in STEM research and education. I highly recommend checking out the national organization or a local chapter!
Give the gift of SPS Swag!

The holiday season is right around the corner - consider purchasing a gift from the SPS Bonfire store for your favorite mycologist! You'll support Students and Postdocs of the MSA and look good doing so! Remember: *Mycology is better than yours!*
Resources

Mycological Society of America
MSA membership portal and renewal
MSA awards

Student and Postdoc Section
Mycology colloquium signup form
Student spotlight signup form
Mycology group spotlight signup form
Musings and Mycologists (MnMs) nomination form
Photos of the month submission form
MSA SPS swag

Check out our new merch here!

MSA SPS Social Media

[Icons for YouTube, Twitter, Instagram, Facebook, Spotify, and website]