Congratulations to the 20 students who have been awarded UConn IDEA Grants to support 2021-22 academic year projects.

**INDIVIDUAL PROJECTS**

**Narayani Ballambat ’22,** Physiology and Neurobiology & English, CLAS  
*Lust in Music: Addressing the Double Standards of Sexually Motivated Music in the 21st Century*  
Mentor: Jiyoun Suk, Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies

**Aaron Beams ’22,** Biomedical Engineering, ENG  
*Intracellular Protein Delivery Using Nanopieces for Anticancer Applications*  
Mentor: Yupeng Chen, Biomedical Engineering

**Ling Chi ’22,** Biomedical Engineering, ENG  
*SDHFlow - Workflow Integration of an Automated Social Determinant of Health Screening Tool*  
Mentor: Robert Stanley, UConn Health

**Erik Choi ’23,** Physiology and Neurobiology & Economics, CLAS  
*Thinking Outside the SOX: The Fate of Fibro-Adipogenic Progenitors After Knockout of the SOX9 Gene*  
Mentor: David Goldhamer, Molecular and Cell Biology

**Maxwell Fenner ’22,** Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, CLAS  
*Determining the Insulative Contribution of Pennaceous Barbs in House Sparrow (Passer domesticus) Contour Feathers*  
Mentor: Margaret Rubega, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

**Harsha Jain ’22,** Engineering Physics & Computer Science and Engineering, ENG  
*Entrepreneurial Venture of a Smart Real Time Monitoring Device for Plants*  
Mentor: Jonathan Moore, Management Information Systems

**Amara Khaled ’22,** Art, SFA  
*“Un”filtered Bridges*  
Mentor: Emily Larned, Art & Art History
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Kynza Khimani ’22, Physiology and Neurobiology & IMJR: Global Health, CLAS
A Mixed Method Study of Access to Organic Diet in Children Affected by PANS (Pediatric Acute-Onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome)
Mentor: Cesar Abadia, Anthropology & Human Rights

Mahima Mehta ’22, Molecular and Cell Biology, CLAS
Exploring the Effects of Nest Temperature on the DNA Methylation of Eastern Bluebirds
Mentor: Sarah Knutie, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

Robin Rouleau ’22, Philosophy & Linguistics/Psychology, CLAS
Existential Anthropology as Validating Experience: A Comparative Analysis of C. L. R. James and Michael D. Jackson
Mentor: Lewis Gordon, Philosophy

Joseph Vazquez ’22, Urban and Community Studies & Human Rights, CLAS
No Home Since: A Glimpse Into Hartford’s Hidden Voices
Mentor: Stacy Maddern, Urban and Community Studies

Saumya Vodapally ’22, Molecular and Cell Biology & Women’s, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, CLAS
RiSE: Refugees in STEM Education
Mentor: Saran Stewart, Higher Education and Student Affairs

Funding for original, creative, innovative, student-designed projects including artistic endeavors, community service initiatives, research projects, entrepreneurial ventures and prototyping.

ugradresearch.uconn.edu/IDEA
GROUP PROJECTS

Mansi Dhond ’22, Management and Engineering for Manufacturing, ENG
Amisha Paul ’22, Physiology and Neurobiology & Economics, CLAS
Global Health Curriculum and Advocacy Toolkits: Developing the High School to Post-Secondary Education Pipeline
Mentor: John Redden, Physiology and Neurobiology

Elizabeth He ’22, Molecular and Cell Biology, CLAS
André Mastrandrea ’23, Music, SFA
When I Get Back to My Dorm - A Collection of Songs Inspired By the UConn Campus
Mentor: Kenneth Fuchs, Music

Quincy Heinrich ’22, Electrical Engineering, ENG
Zachary Stone ’22, Electrical Engineering, ENG
Variable Pole Induction Motor and Controller
Mentor: Ali Bazzi, Electrical and Computer Engineering

Vuk Jankovic ’24, Psychological Sciences, CLAS
Andela Stefanovic ’22, Engineering, ENG
Virtual Reality Learning Tree
Mentors: Stacy Maddern, Urban and Community Studies; Kenneth Thompson, Digital Media and Design