Congratulations to the 14 students who have been awarded UConn IDEA Grants to support 2023-24 academic year projects.

**Victoria Almazán ’25**, Psychological Sciences & English, CLAS
*A Qualitative Study on Perceived Needs and Challenges of Latino/a Mothers and Co-Residential Grandparents: Development of a Communication Supplement for a Home Visiting Program*
Mentor: Dr. Cristina Wilson, Social Work

**Nithila Annadurai ’24**, Psychological Sciences, CLAS; Computer Science, ENG
*Dynamical Processes in Rat Observational Learning*
Mentor: Dr. Etan Markus, Psychological Sciences

**Heather Bjerke ’24**, Pathobiology, CAHNR
*The Relationship Between Nestling Sex-Ratio and Parasitism of Bluebirds and Tree Swallows Depending on Temporal Variation and Differences Between Species*
Mentor: Dr. Sarah Knutie, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology

**Olivia Bowes ’24**, Molecular and Cell Biology, CLAS
*The Effects of Phosphodiesterases on Drosophila melanogaster Sperm Storage*
Mentor: Dr. Jianjun Sun, Physiology and Neurobiology

**Sana Gupta ’24**, Statistics, CLAS
*A Novel Imputation Strategy for Incomplete Compositional Data Analysis*
Mentor: Dr. Ofer Harel, Statistics

**Emily Longtin ’24**, Nursing, NUR
*Evaluating Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices of Nursing Students in Pediatric Shared Decision-Making*
Mentor: Dr. Katherine Bernier Carney, Nursing

**Joanie Papillon ’24**, Puppetry, SFA
*Taurus: An Original Multidisciplinary Theatre Production*
Mentor: Matthew Sorensen, Puppetry
UConn IDEA Grant Recipients
Spring 2023 - Cohort 21

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Irene Pham ’24, Art, SFA
From Grandfather to Mother, from Mother to Daughter: Exploring Legacy, Immigration, Separation, and Intergenerational Relationships Through a Series of Paintings
Mentor: Douglas Degges, Art and Art History

Trevor Religa ’25, Molecular and Cell Biology, CLAS
The Synaptic Adhesion Protein C1QL3 in the Prefrontal Cortex Is Required for Learning Cognitively Challenging Tasks
Mentor: Dr. David Martinelli, Neuroscience

Matt Silverman ’24, Electrical Engineering, ENG
Fault-Tolerant Reconfigurable Microgrid
Mentor: Dr. Ali Bazzi, Electrical Engineering

Hashem Sufyan ’24, Cognitive Science & Philosophy, CLAS
A Contemporary Insight Into Ecological Crisis
Mentor: Dr. Thomas Bontly, Philosophy

Wiktor Szwajger ’25, Civil Engineering, ENG
Urban Development Around Commuter Rail Lines: Analyzing Transit Oriented Development in Relation to Brownfields Along the CT Rail Hartford Line
Mentor: Dr. Stacy Maddern, Urban and Community Studies

Alexa Udell ’24, Psychological Sciences, CLAS
Trans-Photography: Gender Euphoria and Expression Through Portraiture
Mentor: Daniel Buttrey, Art and Art History

Lianna Wagner ’24, Molecular and Cell Biology, CLAS
A Dynamic Duo: The Arp2/3 Complex and WASP-Family Proteins in Lysosomal Integrity
Mentor: Dr. Kenneth Campellone, Molecular and Cell Biology

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

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