



Top student essays on ethical issues in brain science selected in the Neuroethics Essay Contest

September 16, 2021 – The International Neuroethics Society (INS) and International Youth Neuroscience Association (IYNA) have selected **Nathan Luke Higgins, Erin Morrow** and **Rafael Hiu Nok Au** as the winning authors of the Neuroethics Essay Contest in 2021.

The contest aims to promote interest in neuroethics among students in high school, university, and early career training programs. Neuroethics is a scientific discipline that explores issues involving brain research, emerging technologies, ethics, policy, and law.

Each winner received a 1-year membership to the INS, a \$250 cash prize, and a free registration to participate in the online [2021 INS Annual Meeting](#), November 4-5, 2021. The winning essays are available on the INS website and will also be published on the Dana Foundation website. A selection of top submissions to the high school category will be published in the [IYNA Journal](#).

The following authors were selected as winners for their outstanding submissions in the respective essay categories:

- *Academic*: Nathan Luke Higgins, Monash University (Australia) – ‘Continued access to invasive neural devices: lessons from the AIDS epidemic’
- *General Audience*: Erin Morrow, Emory University (United States) – ‘Beyond Disinformation: Deep Fakes and False Memory Implantation’
- *High School*: Rafael Hiu Nok Au (Hong Kong) – ‘Exploring the Ethical Implications of Neurotheological Studies’

Due to the volume of excellent scholarship submitted to the contest, several essays from each category were named as honorable mentions. Authors receiving an honorable mention include:

- *Academic*: **Noorina Noorfuad**, Hamad Bin Khalifa University (Qatar); **Naryeong Kim**, Stanford University (South Korea);
- *General Audience*: **Sanjana P. Padala**, Vanderbilt University (United States); **Cody Slater**, Columbia University (United States);
- *High School*: **Pragya Kumar** (United States); **Akshara Sankar** (United States); **Arush Adabala** (United States);

Information about the winning authors and each of the winning and honorable mention essays are available on the [Neuroethics Essay Contest](#) webpage.

The contest, now in its eighth year, is organized annually by the members of the [INS Student/Postdoc Committee](#) and editors of the [IYNA Journal](#), and has been supported each year by Dr. Michael Patterson, former editor of the *Kopf Carrier* and long-time supporter of neuroethics.

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Contact: Robert Beets, INS Communications Director, rbeets@neuroethicssociety.org

International Neuroethics Society
4938 Hampden Lane #553, Bethesda, MD 20814
neuroethicssociety.org
+1 301-229-1660