

GEORGE WANG



SCHOOL: Oklahoma School of Science and Mathematics, Oklahoma City, OK

YEAR: Senior

HOMETOWN: Tulsa, OK

PROJECT: "Ab Initio Calculations of Possible Hypercarbon in Ionic Hydrocarbon Compounds and Prediction of Stable Pyramidal Tropylium Trication with Heptacoordinate Carbon"

"I am most passionate about making new scientific discoveries and inventions."

George and his mentors identified a unique, stable pyramidal structure, which has a carbon atom bonded to seven atoms. The molecular structure they found may help explain the chemistry and reaction process of organic molecules, which are still not fully understood. He was inspired by his mentor, Dr. Bin Wang, to perform quantum-mechanical calculations of molecules and solids in his research. His research advisor, Dr. Fazlur Rahman, inspired him to study hypercarbon compounds.

George hopes to be a scientist or an inventor when he grows up and use science and technology to improve students' access to education. He qualified for the USA Mathematical Olympiad, and he earned an honorable mention in the USA Physics Olympiad. He is currently the Vice President of the Chinese American Association of Tulsa and has been named a 2017 Research Science Institute Scholar.

Outside of school, George plays piano. He also enjoys traveling, hiking, and running.