



WFO PRESS RELEASE

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Best Young Foundry Researchers and Early Career Professionals 2024

June 28th. The foundry industry was able to meet some of the best young foundry researchers identified in USA, Finland, Japan, Spain, China, India and Germany through a competition organized by The WFO (World Foundry Organization)

The WFO (World Foundry Organization) announces the 2024 Best Young Foundry Professionals as a result of the final stage of the Young Researchers Conference taking place in Germany on June 11th. The authors acknowledged are next:

🏆 1st Yasuhiko Okimura (Japan), Assistant Professor in Waseda University

🏆 2nd Jianyue Zhang (United States), Postdoctoral Researcher in The Ohio State University

🏆 3rd Shrivatsav Shankar (United States), PhD Student Researcher, Material Science and Engineering Dept. in UC Irvine, Advanced Casting Research Center

These have been invited to travel to the World Foundry Congress 2024 in Deyang, China where they will be introduced to the global industry through the WFO and will take part in some networking activities. Congrats to these promising professionals and their universities for this great achievement!

As stated by the General Secretary of the WFO José Javier González, *“We think on this award as a big competition in the global foundry industry to identify the most promising professionals. All the authors in this final stage that took place in Germany have a bright future in our industry, we just need our companies to find them the way.”*

The awarding ceremony took part in Clausthal University of Technology as the final stage of a full programme set for the best 10 candidates out of a group of 20 that competed online in a preliminary selection. From June 8th to 12th all these promising professionals took part in some networking actions with the industry in the area of Hannover including visits to the HA Center of Competence and Clausthal University. They took part as well in the IdeenExpo where they enjoyed a casting practical session in the Foundry School and where they were introduced to some relevant foundry industry professionals and companies.



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In addition to the winners, congratulations also to the young professionals selected in the final group of the best ten authors: Raquel Fierro Jaime (USA), Andrés Pérez Zabala (Spain), Sohail Mansoor (Germany), Mohammad Jobayer Huq (Japan), Nurul Anwar (Finland), Yunxiang Tan (China) and Monish Kumar V R (India).

Thanks to all the collaborators and sponsors that made this possible, with special mention to the commitment and inestimable support of Carsten Kuhlitz, Albertus-Stiftung, Albertuswerke GmbH and Technische Universität Clausthal:

AZTERLAN Metallurgy Research Centre, IdeenExpo GmbH, Hüttenes-Albertus Chemische Werke GmbH, Chemex Foundry Solutions GmbH, Clariant, SQ Group, Inductotherm Group, AnyCasting Software, FOUNDRY TRADE JOURNAL LTD, Weir Minerals, General Kinematics Vibrating Equipment, Foseco, Laempe Mössner Sinto GmbH.

Finally, we would like to thank the Organizing Team and Reviewers: Babette Tonn, Ludwig Tonn, Olatz Garro, Pam Murrel, Katarzyna Liszka, Xabier González, Doug Kurkul, Sang Mok Lee, Hideki Yamaura, Ken Moizumi, Kazumichi Shimizu, Thomas Prucha, Mark Osborne, Jerry Thiel, Wolfram Volk, Susana Mendez Boveda, Ana Isabel Fernández Calvo, Dawid Myszk, Attila Dioszegi and Hiroyasu MAKINO.

The WFO would like to invite universities, research institutes, companies and associations in the global foundry industry to stay tuned to the news about next edition of this award to promote the participation of their young professionals in this exciting global competition.



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PICTURE MATERIALS FOR THE PRESS RELEASE



Figure 1. The young candidates attending some explanations at the IdeenExpo



Figure 2. Dr Carsten Kuhlitz giving some insights to the young candidates at the IdeenExpo



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Figure 3. The young candidates visiting some foundry companies in the foundry school area of IdeenExpo



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Figure 4. Raquel Fierro taking part in the casting session at the Foundry School in IdeenExpo



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Figure 5. Monish Kumar taking part in the casting session at the Foundry School in IdeenExpo



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Figure 6. Managers and Board Members of Albertus-Stiftung and Albertuswerke GmbH met the young candidates at IdeenExpo



Figure 7. The young candidates visiting the city of Goslar on their way to Clausthal University of Technology



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Figure 8. All the best 10 authors gathered before the final decision, holding the casted part they manufactured in the Fair



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Figure 9. (left to right) Carsten Kuhlitz, Shrivatsav Shankar as the 3rd Best Young Author 2024, and José Javier González



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Figure 10. (left to right) Carsten Kuhlitz, Yasuhiro Okimura as the 1st Best Young Author 2024, and José Javier González



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Figure 11. The 1st and 3rd Best Authors of the 2024 edition

ABOUT THE WFO

The World Foundry Organization is the recognised centre of strategic foundry knowledge, designed to develop, enhance and improve the production of metal castings through the latest technical and sustainable industry practices.

Through the involvement of the member associations in 30 countries the WFO creates a network of technical knowledge and resources that is a vital tool to every foundry association, foundry and foundry worker throughout the world.

The WFO is a neutral body that represents the collective needs of the members on a global stage.