



**Davidson Fellow
Keerthi Prabhala**

(\$10,000 Scholarship Recipient)



Personal Info

Keerthi Prabhala
Age: 17
Irvine, Calif.

School, College and Career Plans

Keerthi is an honor student at Woodbridge High School taking Advanced Placement courses and will graduate in 2004. He is concurrently taking courses at a local community college. While undecided about his college major, he is interested in biology and applied technologies.

Davidson Fellows Submission (*Technology*)

Keerthi applied his knowledge of electrical engineering and computer programming to develop a low-cost concept for Brain Computer Interface, which uses digital signal processing and a neural network to control electronic devices. In his research, titled "Brainwave Derived Electronic Control," Keerthi offers potential benefits to those who are physically disabled.

Biography

A guiding principle in Keerthi's life is that, "he who never walks except where he sees other men's tracks will make no discoveries."

At the age of ten, Keerthi realized that finding a parking spot could be a daunting task. He began researching ways for people to find parking places faster. Through his research, Keerthi created an invention which he presented on national television during the Jay Leno show.

In the 9th grade, Keerthi invented a language to program robotic movements over the Internet that won second place at the California state science fair. Intrigued by the human body's interactions with technology, Keerthi produced an electronic nose giving a computer the sense of smell the following year. Once again, his invention won first place at state science fair.

Through his studies in Latin and classical history, Keerthi has received awards from the Junior Classical League. He participates in the Science Olympiad at his high school and robotics competitions.

Please see next page.



**Davidson Fellow
Keerthi Prabhala**

(Cont.)

Honors/Awards

- 2003 Davidson Fellow
- 2003 National Merit Semifinalist
- 2003, 2002, 2001 Orange County Science Fair, First Place
- 2003, 2002, 2001 California State Science Fair, First Place
- 2003 FIRST Robotics Competition, Placed Fourth Among Rookie Teams
- 2003, 2002, 2001 California State Latin Convention, Numerous Awards
- 2003, 2002, 2001 National Latin Exam – Gold, Silver and Bronze Medals
- 2003, 2002, 2001 Science Olympiad, Various Awards at Regional and State Competitions
- Invent America Grand Prize in 5th Grade; Appeared on NBC's Jay Leno Show

Community Activities

Keerthi volunteers for the American Red Cross assisting with community education, blood drives and data processing.

For the past four years, Keerthi has participated in his church's youth ministry as a lector.

###