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ESSILOR SPONSORS BERNARD MAITENAZ SCHOLARSHIP FOR OPTOMETRY STUDENTS IN US

The \$10,000 annual scholarship, in honor of Bernard Maitenaz inventor of the Varilux lens, will be administered by the charitable arm of the American Optometric Association.



Essilor of America is sponsoring a new \$10,000 annual scholarship for third-year optometry students – the Bernard Maitenaz Scholarship – that will be administered by Optometry Cares® – The AOA Foundation, the charitable organization of the American Optometric Association (AOA).

The scholarship honors Bernard Maitenaz, one of the foremost authorities in optical science and engineering who invented the Varilux lens. In 2012 alone, 50 million progressive addition lenses were prescribed and dispensed in the US. Bernard Maitenaz, who worked at Essilor for 43 years serving as chief operating officer, chief executive officer and chairman, received the prestigious Apollo Award at this year’s 117th Annual American Optometric Association (AOA) Congress.

“We are excited to have this opportunity to encourage the best young optometric minds around the country to dream big,” said Howard Purcell, senior vice president of customer development, Essilor of America. “This scholarship serves not only as a way to honor Bernard Maitenaz, but also support future leaders in the optical industry and help further their education, while continuing our long-standing support for the AOA.”

Applications will be reviewed by Optometry Cares Endowment and Scholarship Fund Advisory Committee, and a winner will be determined in December 2014.

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