# Optics in 2026

This special issue of *Optics & Photonics News* highlights exciting peer-reviewed optics research that has emerged over the past year.

Our panel of editors reviewed 96 summaries of work by researchers from around the world. They selected for publication 30 stories that they felt communicated breakthroughs of particular interest to the broad optics community. OPN thanks all who submitted summaries, as well as our panel of guest editors.


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Discovery of emerging hyperbolic polaritons at the surface of ordinary non-hyperbolic crystals, promising a unique route toward universal hyperbolic nano-optics (see Hu et al., p. 38).
[Illustration by Zhigao Dai]



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