FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Apply Now for U.S. State Department High School Student Scholarships to Live and Study Languages Abroad

Washington, D.C. – Applications are now being accepted for the U.S. Department of State’s National Security Language Initiative for Youth (NSLI-Y) program. Over 670 U.S. high school students will be selected to study a critical language in the summer of 2021 or in the 2021-22 academic year. Scholarships cover travel, intensive language learning through a study abroad experience, cultural activities, and housing, including time living with a host family. Applicants may choose to study Arabic, Chinese (Mandarin), Hindi, Indonesian, Korean, Persian (Tajiki), Russian, or Turkish.

To date, over 7,000 U.S. high school students have participated in the program resulting in language proficiency, cultural understanding, and cross-cultural communication skills. NSLI-Y alumni have become global leaders in a variety of fields in the private, academic, and government sectors, and according to a recent survey more than 86 percent of alumni felt that the program gave them unique professional expertise that assisted their careers. “NSLI-Y is an invaluable opportunity that provides you with the tools to fuel your ambitions in language learning and gain crucial experiences to become a more globally-minded citizen. Language learning in itself opens doors to an innumerable amount of opportunities, while the study abroad experience offers the means to make intercultural connections and impact a community across the world in a personal way,” describes a recent alumnus.

Launched in 2006 as part of a multi-agency U.S. Government initiative, NSLI-Y is a program of the U.S. Department of State’s Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. The program increases the number of young Americans with the language skills necessary to advance international dialogue, compete effectively in the global economy, and help increase understanding across cultures. NSLI-Y is administered by American Councils for International Education, in cooperation with AFS-USA, iEARN, and other partner organizations.

For more information about the NSLI-Y program, how to apply, and eligibility criteria, visit www.nsliforyouth.org. The application deadline is November 5, 2020, 4:00 PM U.S. Eastern Time.

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