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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Los Angeles Student to Study Chinese (Mandarin) in China on U.S. Department of State NSLI-Y Scholarship**

Maximilian Mooradian, a high school student in Los Angeles, California, will study Chinese (Mandarin) in China for the summer through a National Security Language Initiative for Youth (NSLI-Y) scholarship. NSLI-Y is a program of the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.

Maximilian, competitively selected out of over 3,300 applications from across the United States, is one of approximately 660 students who will study Arabic, Chinese, Hindi, Indonesian, Korean, Persian, Russian, or Turkish overseas this coming year. While in China, Maximilian will receive formal language instruction, live with a host family, and experience the local culture as part of an immersion environment.

NSLI-Y is part of a multi-agency U.S. Government initiative launched in 2006 to improve Americans' ability to communicate in select critical languages, to advance international dialogue, and increase American economic global competitiveness. Many NSLI-Y alumni go on to pursue education and careers vital to U.S. national security and credit the program experience with helping them improve their academic, leadership, and cross-cultural communication skills.

NSLI-Y is administered by American Councils for International Education in cooperation with AFS-USA, American Cultural Exchange Service, AMIDEAST, iEARN-USA, the Russian American Foundation, Stony Brook University, the University of Delaware, and the University of Wisconsin.

Applications for 2020-21 NSLI-Y programs are expected to be available at [www.nsliforyouth.org](http://www.nsliforyouth.org) in the late summer. The U.S. Department of State conducts study abroad programs for over 1,000 American high school students and approximately 3,000 foreign high school students each year. Visit <https://exchanges.state.gov/highschool> for details.

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