

Three Macalester students receive U.S. Department of State Critical Language Scholarships

St. Paul, Minn. – Cecilia Mayer '16, Seattle, Wash., **Martine Cartier, 18**, Ashville, N.C., and **Mariya Yoshovska '18**, Glenview, Ill., have been awarded U.S. Department of State Critical Language Scholarships (CLS) to study Indonesian in Malang, Indonesia, Arabic in Meknes, Morocco, and Korean in Gwangju, South Korea, respectively this summer.

These three students are among the approximately 560 U.S. undergraduate and graduate students who received a CLS scholarship in 2016. Selected finalists hail from 48 states and the District of Columbia, and represent more than 200 institutions of higher education from across the United States, including public and private universities, liberal arts colleges, minority-serving institutions and community colleges. Each CLS participant will spend eight to ten weeks in one of 24 locations studying Arabic, Azerbaijani, Bangla, Chinese, Hindi, Korean, Indonesian, Japanese, Persian, Punjabi, Russian, Swahili, Turkish, or Urdu.

Cecilia Mayer '16, from Seattle, Wash., will study Indonesian at Universitas Negeri, in Malang, Indonesia, from June 13 - August 14, 2016. Mayer started learning Indonesian during her semester abroad in Indonesia in Fall, 2014. "I quickly learned to love it and have never enjoyed learning and speaking a language as much as I do Indonesian," said Mayer. "I had always hoped that I would get the opportunity to use my language skills in combination with my major, anthropology, and luckily, I will get to do exactly that after the CLS program." Mayer will be a research assistant at the Tuanan Orangutan Research Project in Central Kalimantan, Indonesia, after she finishes her CLS. She hopes and to attend graduate school for physical anthropology after a year or two.

Martine Cartier '18, from Ashville, N.C., will study Arabic in Meknes, Morocco, at the Arab American Language Institute in Morocco, from May 31 - July 31, 2016. "I wanted to study Arabic because it is so widely used and knowing it will open up opportunities in many different places," said Cartier. "CLS also provides an opportunity to learn about the culture of the country, which I am very excited about." Cartier is still exploring her options as to what she'll do once she graduates, but she hopes to be able to use Arabic and continue learning about different Arabic speaking cultures.

Mariya Yoshovska '18, from Glenview, Ill., will study Korean in Gwangju, South Korea, at Chonnam National University, from June 16 - Aug 14, 2016. "It is important to me to study Korean because I have many Korean friends back home who inspired me to study not only the language but also learn more about



Cecilia Mayer '16

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Korean culture and history," said Yoshovska. "Learning Korean would give me a chance to maybe go back to Korea and study or work there." Once she graduates, Yoshovska hopes to go to graduate school for linguistics.

The Critical Language Scholarship Program (<http://exchanges.state.gov/us/cls>) is part of a U.S. government effort to expand dramatically the number of Americans studying and mastering critical foreign languages. The program provides fully funded, group-based intensive language instruction and structured cultural enrichment experiences. Participants are expected to continue their language study beyond the scholarship and apply their critical language skills in their future professional careers. Formal classroom language instruction is provided for a minimum of 20 hours per week. Extracurricular activities are designed to supplement the formal curriculum, including regular one-on-one meetings with native speaker language partners for conversational practice.

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May 13 2016

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Martine Cartier '18

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Mariya Yoshovska '18

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