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Wilmot '19 Earns Fulbright Award

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Wilmot '19 Earns Fulbright Award

- Rayann Wilmot '19 earned a Fulbright U.S. Student Program award for 2019–20.
- A sociology major and biology minor, Wilmot will spend a year teaching English in Spain.
- Wilmot is 1 of 2 UMN Morris Fulbright finalists this year.

Rayann Wilmot '19 earned a Fulbright U.S. Student Program award for 2019–20. A sociology major and biology minor, she hopes to work in medicine one day.

THE JOURNEY THERE

Wilmot earned an English Teaching Assistant (ETA) award, which will place her in a classroom abroad to provide assistance to local English teachers.

After getting the opportunity to travel to Spain with her high school orchestra, Wilmot knew she needed to go back—but didn't know how or when. It was Jennifer Deane, professor of history and coordinator of national scholarships and fellowships, who helped Wilmot see Fulbright as a possibility.

Wilmot says the combination of faculty and resources at UMN Morris is what made it possible for her not only to apply for a Fulbright award, but also to stand out in the process.

"I was able to utilize resources like professors and the writing center to strengthen my writing. Beyond that, I had numerous opportunities on this campus, which made me a more well rounded candidate."

THE ROAD AHEAD

Wilmot hopes her Fulbright year in Spain will prepare her for a future in medicine.

"This will strengthen my cultural literacy and Spanish language fluency, which I plan on using to better communicate with people in a medical career."

UMN MORRIS ON THE GLOBAL STAGE

Eight UMN Morris students submitted Fulbright applications this year, supported by advising from faculty and staff through the Academic Center for Enrichment; five were semifinalists:

- Drewe Jefferson, German/English
- Kamille 'Mia' King, biology/psychology/Spanish
- Emily Kuehn, psychology/Spanish
- Jacob Miller, English/German
- Rayann Wilmot, biology/sociology

Wilmot and <u>Jefferson</u> went on to be named finalists. Their success builds on last year's awards, which earned the campus Top Fulbright producer status two years in a row.

"As one of the country's top public liberal arts colleges, UMN Morris provides talented students access to life-changing educational opportunities," said Chancellor Michelle Behr. "Our exceptional students are prepared to live as engaged global citizens, and we are excited for their upcoming Fulbright experiences."

ABOUT FULBRIGHT

The Fulbright U.S. Student Program is the largest United States exchange program offering opportunities for students and young professionals to undertake international graduate study, advanced research, university teaching, and primary and secondary school teaching worldwide. Learn more at us.fulbrightonline.org.

The Fulbright competition is administered at UMN Morris through the Academic Center for Enrichment. To learn more, visit <u>ace.morris.umn.edu</u>