

ISHS Student Selected for Prestigious Bolshoi Academy

Lincoln, Neb., June 10, 2010 — Sarah Wiese, a student of the University of Nebraska–Lincoln's Independent Study High School, is among 10 American high school ballet dancers selected for the prestigious National Security Language Initiative for Youth Program, announced recently by the [Russian American Foundation](#). The students will spend six weeks this summer studying Russian language, culture and ballet at the renowned Bolshoi Ballet Academy in Moscow.



Sarah Wiese

Funded by the U.S. Department of State Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, the program provides merit-based scholarships to qualified U.S. high school students to learn less commonly taught languages and cultures in foreign countries. The partnership with the Russian American Foundation and Bolshoi Academy represents the organization's first dance-related program.

Prior to their departure for Moscow, the students will spend three weeks in intensive ballet training in New York City.

Wiese, of St. Charles, Ill., is a junior at ISHS, an online high school which attracts talented young performers from across the United States. "ISHS not only gave me a fantastic education, but really allowed me to focus on my career," Wiese said. "UNL is really a big part of my current successes."

"We are very proud of Sarah's accomplishments," said Barbara Shousha, ISHS director. "It's an honor to have a number of top-tier athletes and artists as students. I'm pleased our flexible and self-paced curriculum allows students like Sarah to accommodate training and travel schedules while completing their high school education."