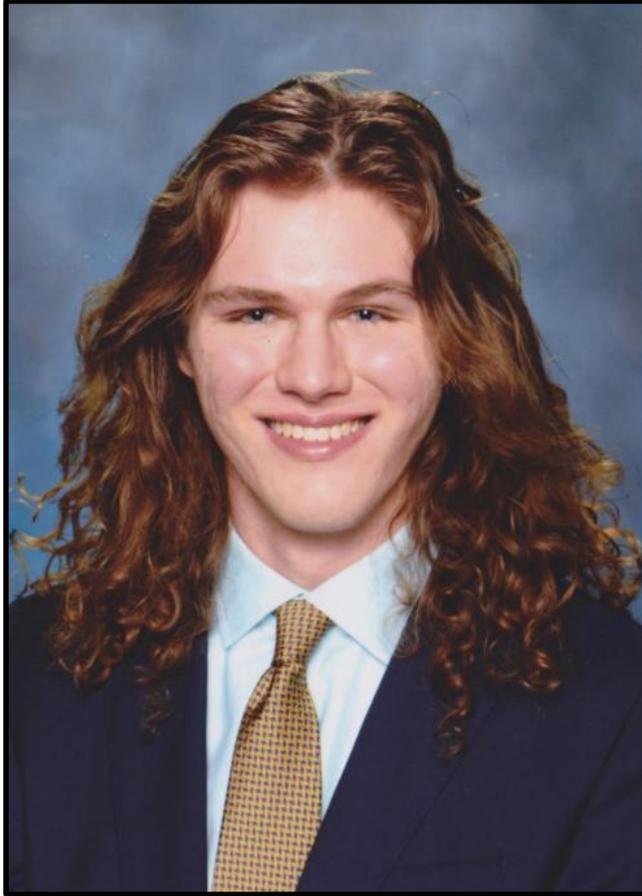


Walter “Orion” Kornfeld
2021 FLAM Excellence in World Languages Study Award
High School



The Excellence in World Languages Study Award - High School is awarded to a junior or senior secondary world language student who exhibits superior performance in the world language class.

Walter “Orion” Kornfeld is our Excellence in World Languages Study Award high school recipient and he graduated from Ladue Horton Watkins in May 2021. Orion loves learning Spanish and excelled in his AP Spanish Language and Spanish Literature classes where he scored 5 in each exam and earned the Distinguished Missouri State Seal of Biliteracy. Orion’s teachers agreed that he is a compassionate, intellectual, and talented student and leader who is always willing to help others.

Orion loves to volunteer and he was the Events Coordinator of the *Sociedad Honoraria Hispánica* (SHH) Los Careros de Ladue, and the President of the National English Honor Society (NEHS) Ladue Chapter. In his role as Events Coordinator in SHH, Orion started a partnership with two schools in Costa Rica, offering classes in math, sciences, reading and writing. Likewise, as

President of the NEHS, Orion presided over discussions and writing workshops, eliciting enthusiastic participation from his peers.

In his quest to answer the question why he is learning Spanish, Orion replied, “When I study a second language, I can understand my first language in a unique, critical way. Furthermore, when I understand the difference between languages, I understand the interaction between language and human thought.” In the future, Orion hopes to study abroad in Costa Rica and to fully immerse himself in the language.

“In class and in the Spanish Honor Society, Orion is one of the most dedicated students that I encountered. Orion has a tremendous desire for learning Spanish and for getting better at speaking and communicating. He uses his language skill to volunteer as often as he can.”

- Dr. Maritza Sloan, Spanish teacher, Ladue Horton Watkins High School

Orion’s “penetrating passion for ideas and values, along with his exceptional intellectual and emotional powers, promise to develop a formidable leader in him. Not only is he the kind of student whom I expect to hear in the future, he is a student whose book I plan to someday read.”

- Dr. Janet Duckham, English teacher, Ladue Horton Watkins High School