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Goshen, Indiana, native attending the World Journalism Institute

MUNCIE, Ind. – Goshen, Indiana, native Liz Rieth, a freshman at Ball State University, has been accepted to attend this summer's World Journalism Institute at Dordt College.

Rieth will be developing the storytelling and technical skills needed to become qualified for the best media job opportunities in print, photography, video and sound.

"I grew up loving reading World Magazine every morning before school. Now, I have an opportunity to go and learn from the writers that inspired me as a kid," said Rieth. "Knowing that I get to spend two weeks in Iowa might not sound exciting for every college student, but, boy I can't wait to head out to those cornfields."

Rieth is a Journalism and Telecommunications News major. She is joining a WJI class that includes 28 students from 18 states and three countries.

WJI offers instruction in the nuts-and-bolts of backpack journalism for convergent media from a Christian worldview. The course focuses on the marketable skills needed for jobs working with newspapers, magazines, websites, television, and radio. With professional mentors by their side, participants draft print stories, record radio spots, shoot photography slide shows, and film video reports. WJI's workshops and seminars are led by guest speakers who have spent decades honing their skills in these areas. The course will emphasize news and feature writing and reporting, whether that be for Christian or secular organizations. Classes will include short lectures and will emphasize discussion and analysis of writings.

"At WJI we teach you how to tell stories," said Lee Pitts, Associate Dean of WJI. "Journalism is one of those skills best learned by doing, and WJI is a place you can practice while getting

feedback from experienced journalists who have been telling good stories from all over the world. And you get this mentoring while befriending peers from around the nation who share your passions and skills.”

Several stories written by the students at last year’s WJI were published in local and regional newspapers, a national magazine, and a radio program.

WJI held its first summer training program in 1999. Since then, young journalists have gathered in Asheville, N.C., Washington D.C., Los Angeles, New York City, Austin, Texas, and now Sioux Center, Iowa. Graduates of the program often secure paid internships and many have gone on to work in such newsrooms as the *Washington Post*, the *New York Times*, the *Des Moines Register*, and *WORLD Magazine*.

Through the generous support of donors, WJI is able to offer this course free to accepted students each year—including not only tuition, but also housing, meals, and transportation to and from the Sioux City and Sioux Falls airports.

The program will take place at Dordt College, located on the green cusp of the Midwest region’s prairie land near the Big Sioux River. Dordt will hold WJI in the state-of-the-art classrooms found in the school’s two-year-old Science and Technology building. Students will be housed in dorms on campus near the school’s colorful prairie, recreation center, and pool complex.

WJI will be held May 17 – June 2, 2018. To learn more about WJI and hear about the experiences of students from previous years, visit WJI’s website at www.worldji.com. The World Journalism Institute is also on Facebook and Twitter.

The World Journalism Institute is a free two-week course sponsored by *WORLD* magazine. Their mission is to recruit, equip, and encourage the next generation of Christian journalists.

Dordt College is a comprehensive Christian college rooted in the Reformed tradition, home to approximately 1,500 students.

If you would like to contact WJI, email journalism.institute@dordt.edu or call Lee Pitts at (712) 722-6269.