

Nobel scholarship goes to honored angel

Flintridge Sacred Heart senior is one of two students in nation bestowed with \$5,000 award.

By Janine Marnien
News-Press

LA CAÑADA FLINTRIDGE — When Claes Nobel learned local teen Laurel Angelica considered nothing more important than life itself, he began to feel a bond with the Flintridge Sacred Heart senior.

Nobel, of the family after which the Nobel Prize is named, visited the campus Monday to present Laurel with one of two scholarships awarded nationwide. The National Society of High School Scholars Claes Nobel Academic Scholarship is in its inaugural year, and was instituted to recognize teens who have excelled academically, demonstrated leadership and donated significant hours of community service.

Laurel was one of 14,000 students nationwide who applied for the scholarship.

"It's so inspirational, having my efforts recognized by such a man," she said after being presented with her \$5,000 scholarship. "I'm just shocked and amazed."

The scholarship will go to offset the cost of Princeton tuition fees, where Laurel will enroll in the fall. She is considering a major in international relations.

"I'm really interested in how countries interact," she said. "That's where our future lies."



PHOTOS BY JILL KARNICKI / NEWS-PRESS

Flintridge Sacred Heart Academy's Laurel Angelica was all smiles during Monday's awards ceremony at which she was presented with a scholarship from Claes Nobel of the National Society of High School Scholars. This is the scholarship's inaugural year.

Laurel is known for her work organizing the La Cañada Community Blood/Bone Marrow Drive, and is active with many other organizations. She is a member of the La Cañada Flintridge Youth Council, the National Honor Society and Amnesty International.

Nobel started the society to help form a vision for youth, and said Laurel is a part of that plan.

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"She is already a role model, and it is important to have role models in our world. And if you look at her name, Laurel means honor and Angelica — maybe she has wings."

Claes Nobel



Claes Nobel, of the family after which the Nobel Prize is named, praises Laurel before presenting her with a \$5,000 scholarship.