



Press Release

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St. Cecilia Academy student attends HOBY World Leadership Congress

St. Cecilia Academy junior Alex Wall recently attended the Hugh O'Brian Youth (HOBY) World Leadership Congress in Los Angeles as the only ambassador for the state of Tennessee. Alex joined more than 400 other young leaders representing as many high schools from the United States and twelve other countries throughout the world.

HOBY Leadership Seminars bring together a select group of high school students from public and private high schools to interact with groups of distinguished leaders in business, government, education and other professions to discuss present and future issues. The goal is to provide the youths a stimulating forum for learning about critical issues while broadening their understanding of their leadership potential and quest for self-development.

Alex did in fact learn about her leadership abilities. "Leadership can be given through service and by example. I now know to look for the opportunities to step up and be the leader, but also to sit back and let others lead as well," said Alex.

HOBY has core values of volunteerism, integrity, excellence, diversity, and community partnership. The value that resonated with Alex was volunteerism. Leaving the seminar, she is hoping to impact her community by initiating service projects and also hopes to inspire others to get more involved.

"We have to get more involved and not just sit back and let high school fly by," says Alex. "Seeing others from HOBY getting involved really motivates and inspires me."

Alex was selected for the World Leadership Congress, held in the summer, after representing St. Cecilia at the local HOBY conference in the spring. She is a student Ambassador and is involved in many clubs such as the Art Club and Spirit Club at St. Cecilia.

"Alex was chosen because she is a go-getter. She is always bringing up new ideas and is not afraid to give something new a try. She's willing to take on a leadership role even if

she isn't an officer in that club," said Heather Honeycutt, director of student activities at St. Cecilia Academy.

St. Cecilia Academy—Nashville's oldest private high school founded in 1860 by the Dominican Sisters of St. Cecilia Congregation—will celebrate its 150th anniversary throughout the 2010-2011 school year. The Academy has been named to the Top 50 best Catholic high schools in the U.S. list four times since 2004. Eighty-five percent of the 53 Class of 2010 members were offered college scholarships totaling \$5.5 million. That equals an average of over \$100,000 in offered college scholarships per graduate.

***Photograph outline:** St. Cecilia Academy junior Alex Wall represented the state of Tennessee at the HOBY World Leadership Congress in Los Angeles.*

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