



## Press Release

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### St. Cecilia Academy awards Principal's Scholarships for 2011-2012

St. Cecilia Academy has awarded freshman class members Virginia Elizabeth Green, from Saint Ann School, and Shannon Eileen Heflin, from Christ the King School, the 2011 Principal's Scholarship.

Each year, St. Cecilia Academy offers the Principal's Scholarship, which started in 2006-2007, to two incoming freshmen with great academic potential whose families have a strong financial need.

Potential recipients must, like all applicants, apply to SCA by the deadline and take the Independent School Entrance Examination (ISEE). However, families also need to submit tax returns and send a tuition assistance application to an independent organization, School and Student Services (SSS). As a final step, the candidates are required to complete a comprehensive essay test that covers a number of academic areas. The scholarship assists with tuition for all four years based on the family's need as identified by the SSS.

Virginia and Shannon both were ecstatic when they received the news. Shannon said "When I learned that I had received the scholarship, I was shocked. I knew I was going against lots of other extremely smart girls, and I was so floored."

Shannon, according to her mother Eileen Heflin, "really wanted to go to St. Cecilia; she has been unwavering in that wish since third grade. She saw how the SCA experience helped her older sisters blossom and mature." Eileen adds, "We have seen how St. Cecilia challenges our girls and helps them to grow academically and spiritually."

"I watched both my sisters achieve great things with the help of St. Cecilia Academy. I knew I wanted to have an experience like both of my sisters had," Shannon said.

As a parent considering SCA, Eileen notes, "SCA prepared both our older daughters to not only excel in their academic careers in college, but it also gave them the self-knowledge and strength to stand firm in a culture that is not always the best. The community and support offered by SCA is so strong; it is a home away from home for our daughters. We feel so fortunate to be able to be a part of it."

Virginia's mother Ellen Green says, "We were delighted and surprised. The joy in her eyes at winning the scholarship was very moving." Ellen adds, "St. Cecilia is an extraordinary school. We are very blessed. Her father would have been so proud."

According to Betty Bader, SCA Director of Admissions, the administration feels strongly that any girl in the mid-state area who has the ability and the desire to attend SCA should have the chance to do so. Fundraising efforts to support this goal are ongoing.

“We believe it will create opportunities for Virginia that she never would have had before. I know Virginia’s academic and extra-curricular interest will flourish at St. Cecilia,” Ellen Green said.

St. Cecilia Academy is Nashville’s oldest private high school, founded in 1860 by the Dominican Sisters of the St. Cecilia Congregation. The Academy has been named to the Top 50 best Catholic high schools in the U.S. list five times since 2004. Ninety-one percent of the Class of 2011 earned college scholarships totaling \$7.2 million.

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