

# AMELIE SIMPSON

A television show aired when I was in preschool called Hannah Montana, about a teenage girl who lived a double life as a pop singer and a typical teenager. In many ways, I have lived a Hannah Montana life. I had a regular high school experience, but, on top of all that, I have done something unique—I've also maintained a professional life away from school as a musician.



At the age of 13, I made my debut at the San Diego County Fair, playing a 90-minute set on the Showcase Stage. In total, I've performed at the fair five times as a solo musician, including a weekend performance on the Ballast Point Paddock Stage in 2019.

I have played over 50 live shows during the past five years, from Colorado to Lake Tahoe. I currently have regular paid performances at both Seaport Village and One Paseo.

Performing as a teenage musician has been hard work, but it has helped shape me into the person I am today. Because of music, I am not afraid to take on new experiences or meet new people. It has helped me develop vocal and guitar proficiency and learn communication, marketing, and time-management skills.

At Valhalla High School, I served as president of the Rotary's Interact club and helped organize our school's Australian exchange program. I was also a starting midfielder on the school's field hockey and lacrosse teams, earning six varsity letters. For the past four years, I have participated in my school's vocal music program and held several leadership positions within that organization.

Outside of school, I am involved in the Reuben H. Fleet Center's BE WiSE program, which promotes STEM learning experiences for young women. I also volunteered at local nonprofits throughout high school, including the Water Conservation Garden, the Mitchell Thorp Foundation, the Princess Project, and Traveling Stories.

Based on my activities and accomplishments, I was named one of San Diego's 25 Most Remarkable Teens by the San Diego Public Defender's Office.

I want to attend Claremont McKenna College and major in Economics or Government. As a career, I hope to find a way to combine my interests in math, business, music, and new cultures. I am interested in either pursuing an international career in the music industry or working for the State Department in some capacity.

Receiving the Don Diego Scholarship would be an amazing honor, especially considering how much performing at the San Diego Country Fair meant to me over the past few years.