

THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

Concordia hosts young entrepreneurs

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Rafi Caro and Michael Karahalios, juniors at San Clemente High School, were awarded a \$1,000 business plan competition grand prize for their innovative concept and entrepreneurial drive at the recent Teen Entrepreneur Academy.

The six-day conference at Concordia University hosted 80 business-minded students from around the world, to guide them in the basics of cultivating and developing their own small businesses.

Students attended from schools including Santa Ana Valley, Century, Northwood, Santa Margarita, Tustin, Tesoro, Orange County School of the Arts, Olive Crest NOVA Academy, San Juan Hills, Corona del Mar and Mission Viejo.

They visited local businesses and listened to top entrepreneurs in workshops held July 14-19. The speakers included Myron Weber, founder of Northwood Advisors; Phillip Chang, founder of Yogurtland; Wing Lam, co-founder of Wahoo's Fish Taco; and Brian Smith, founder of UGG Australia. At the end of the week of classes, presentations and outings, the inspired students presented plans for their future enterprises in a "Fish Bowl" Business Plan Competition.

This year's winning concept from Caro and Karahalios, still in an incubator stage, is an application for infatuated young fans looking to connect online with their favorite up-and-coming artists or entertainers. The app, which targets girls between the ages of 9 and 16, will give fans access to purchasing memorabilia, social media follows and activities with any beloved artist.

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