

## Global and International Studies

Bella DiFrancesco

Submitted by Andrea B. Haupt, PhD

Bella has earned the accolade “Global and International Studies Student-of-the-Year” for her high academic achievements, which include her thoughtful analyses of the course subjects and her intellectual curiosity about global and international affairs. Bella has been accepted into American Committee on Foreign Relations (ACFR’s) Young Leaders Initiative and will travel to Washington D.C. this summer. Congratulations, Bella!

### Bella’s Words of Gratitude

Reflecting on my two years at Santa Barbara, I can see the impact of my educational experience on my life and the perspectives that shape my understanding of the world. Despite some setbacks with the remoteness of online classes during the pandemic, I am incredibly appreciative of my teachers' continued dedication to students' success and well-being. My time in community college has allowed me to continue a path of curiosity for new ideas, places, and people, which I look forward to further sharing when I transfer to university. These past two years have been a major stepping stone for the opportunities ahead of me. Thank you for this award, but most importantly, for instilling a desire to learn and inspiring me to lead a life aware of others' experiences.