“Celebrating a Vision Of Peace”

By Gloria Zigner

Soka University of America landed one of Broadway’s hottest talents, Tony winning Duncan Sheik, as the entertainer for its third annual Peace Gala, dubbed “Celebrating a Vision Of Peace.” Talented Soka and University of California, Irvine students accompanied the singer-songwriter—who composed the music for “Spring Awakening,” named best musical of 2007—in his string section.

With the announcement that the school’s $1 million goal had been reached, President Daniel Habuki thanked the 550 attendees, adding that, “Soka is extremely fortunate to be supported by those who recognize and understand the importance of an education based on the principles of peace, human rights, and the sanctity of life.”

The university’s scenic campus in Aliso Viejo was the venue for the elegant evening, which included cocktails, dinner, and a lively auction, with actor Patrick Duffy returning for his third year as master of ceremonies.