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Not to be missed

"The Truth About Girls' Middle School Experience", a Q&A with a panel of high school girls from all four schools in the Acalanes High School District. These girls have not only attended our local middle schools, but also work with current middle school girls in so they really have a pulse on what is happening in our community. The panel is brought to you and moderated by AAUW (American Association of University Women), aauwoml.org. Join us for a free and lively session Wednesday, February 18th 7:00-8:30 at Orinda Intermediate School Multi Purpose Room. Light refreshments served.

Acalanes High School will hold a blood drive on February 19, 2009 from 8:30 - 2:30 in the Big Gym. Students are strongly encouraged to donate; the public is also welcome. Blood Centers of the Pacific will conduct the drive, with the support of the Acalanes Health Council, Acalanes Leadership Blood Drive committee, Acalanes Parents Club and Healthy Choices committee.

We encourage our donors to sign up online <http://tinyurl.com/bmhft6> That way they are in the database for Blood Centers of the Pacific and can easily be sent reminders about opportunities to donate. You can donate blood every 2 months! School Nurse Dvora Citron's Blackboard website also has more info on the Blood Drive (tab to the left): <http://tinyurl.com/5zena8>.

Acalanes Parent Ed Presents: Drive Smart, Stay Safe. The California Highway Patrol offers this free class at Acalanes on Tuesday, February 24th, 6:00-8:00 pm, Cafeteria. This program, sponsored by the CHP, is for parents and teens to attend together. It is designed to reduce the number of teenage injuries and deaths resulting from motor vehicle collisions. Space is limited, to register for the class, please sign up at: <http://www.acalanes.k12.ca.us/adulted/html/pehighschool.htm> Class # 056214. Or email: LSENDME@SBCGLOBAL.NET

The California State Summer School for the Arts (InnerSpark) is now welcoming applications for 520 motivated high school-aged visual, literary, media and performing artists for its 23rd session in July 2009. The selected students will have the unique opportunity to spend four weeks studying and working with professional artists, writers and performers of national stature. Instruction is offered in the fields of Animation, Film/Video, Creative Writing, Dance, Music, Theater, and the Visual Arts. The talented teenagers who successfully complete the program receive three units of California State University course credit. Application forms and instructions see www.innerspark.us or call the Sacramento headquarters at (916) 274-5815.

Healthy Bodies, Healthy Mind in High School, College, and Beyond: Helping Your Teen Thrive With Positive Self Image, Tuesday, March 3rd, 7:00 pm - 9:00 pm, Acalanes Theatre, no fee. Topics Include: Parent Influence Weight as a Cultural Obsession, Sexuality/Social Life---How self image affects decisions, eating and exercise. What happens when they leave home? Sponsored by Acalanes Parent Ed, for more information email lsgendme@sbcglobal.net.

"Peace through Art and Writing Challenge." The contest is open to Contra Costa County high school and middle school students. The students are invited to enter any of three categories: Essay, Creative Writing, or Art in any medium. All entries are evaluated by independent judges. The theme of this year's challenge is "If you were the President, what measures would you implement to advance world

peace?" The deadline for submitting entries is Friday, March 6, 2009. Students are asked to deliver or send their work to the Mt. Diablo Peace & Justice Center, 55 Eckley Lane, Walnut Creek, CA 94596 (writing entries may be emailed to WritingContest@mtdpc.org). Cash prizes, ranging from \$50 to \$500, depending on grade level and achievement, will be awarded to winners

Reach the reporter at: info@lamorindaweekly.com

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