

SCHOOL CALENDAR

Acalanes Union
High School District
Board Room AUHSD Office
1212 Pleasant Hill Rd, Lafayette
Wednesday, Mar 17, 2010 at 7:30pm
Wednesday, Mar 31, 2010 at 7:30pm

Moraga School District
Joaquin Moraga Intermediate School Auditorium
1010 Camino Pablo, Moraga
Tuesday, April 13, 2010 at 7:30 pm

Lafayette School District
LAFSD Office
3477 School Street, Lafayette
Wednesday, Mar. 18, 2010 at 4 pm (Time change)

Orinda Union School District
OUSD Office
8 Altarinda Road, Orinda
Monday, Apr 12, 2010 at 4:00pm

Orinda Boy Scout Troop 237 Inducts Two Eagle Scouts

Submitted by Anna Duncan



David Esquivel



Matthew Duncan

Orinda's Boy Scout Troop 237 honored its two newest Eagle Scouts at a Court of Honor on Sunday, March 6th at the Orinda Community Church. David Es-

quivel and Matthew Duncan achieved Boy Scouting's highest award after completing their individual community service projects, which included creating a wheel-

chair accessible trail at Wagner Ranch Nature Area and landscaping an area at Sleepy Hollow Elementary School. They both volunteered to work on each other's projects.

David Esquivel's Eagle project benefited the Wagner Ranch Nature Area. David created a 1000 foot trail that is accessible to the handicapped and people in wheelchairs for the first time. David, a sophomore at Miramonte, is on the junior varsity tennis team and has played USTA tennis for six years. He is the son of Gabriel and Jill Esquivel. David would like to acknowledge the incredible support and expertise of Toris Jaeger, Naturalist for Wagner Ranch Nature Area.

Matthew Duncan's Eagle project benefited Sleepy Hollow Elementary School. Matt raised funds to landscape a weed filled area near the entrance to the school. Matt is a sophomore at DeLaSalle High School where he plays baseball. He is the son of Jeff and Anna Duncan. Matt extends special thanks to Kay Aaker, his third grade teacher at Sleepy Hollow, for the idea for this project, and Susan Andersen-Berger for her landscaping expertise!

Troop 237, which has served Orinda for 57 years, has seen 176 of its young men achieve the rank of Eagle Scout. The troop is led by Scoutmaster Eric Jorgensen and Troop Committee Chair Gary Witherell. For information on joining the troop please contact evjorgensen@comcast.net.

Lamorinda Schools Miramonte High School, Mock Trial Champions

Submitted by Jonathan B. Lance



The Miramonte Mock Trial team

Photo Diane Morrell, CCCOE

On March 4, Miramonte High School was named Contra Costa County's Mock Trial Champion. Held at the Contra Costa County Office of Education (CCCOE), the crowded room gave hearty congratulations to the team, and plenty of encouragement for their upcoming matches in the California State Mock Trials. This was Miramonte's 4th Mock Trial County Championship in a row.

For the past seven Tuesday and Thursday evenings, 10 Contra Costa County high school teams have been battling it out in the courtrooms of Martinez with a hypothetical murder trial. The final two matches Miramonte vs. Campolindo (Championship Round) and Acalanes vs. California (Consolation Round) were held last Tuesday (3/2/10) in the courtrooms of the Wakefield Taylor Courthouse, in Martinez.

Along with the Miramonte team, the following three teams in their respective rankings were also awarded: Campolindo (2nd place), California (3rd place), and Acalanes (4th place). In addition, there were a number of individual awards for outstanding achievement presented to students who represented all of the participating teams.

Contra Costa County Presiding Superior Court Judge Mary Ann O'Malley gave her overwhelmingly positive thoughts and observations about how impressive all the students performed during Mock Trials. "I look forward to seeing you all serving as attorneys in my courtroom in the very near future. And, I know some of you will be joining me at the Judge's Bench, as well."

Miramonte will represent Contra Costa County in the California State Mock Trial Competition, held in San Jose, March 19-21.

(The California state finalist team will then compete in the National Mock Trial Competition, held in Philadelphia, Penn., May 6-8.)

Mock Trial is an academic activity for high school students coordinated by the Contra Costa County Office of Education, and sponsored by the Constitutional Rights Foundation www.crf-usa.org. The purpose of this program is to teach students about the law and the workings of the legal system. Each participant portrays the part of a courtroom character such as an attorney, witness, court clerk, or bailiff. To prepare, the students conduct legal research and receive guidance on courtroom procedures from their school teachers and volunteer attorney coaches, where they acquire a working knowledge of the judicial system, develop analytic abilities and presentation skills.

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All about Annie

Submitted by Catherine Soso



Julia Meckes (left) and Maritza Grillo

Photo provided

The Bulldog Theater Company at the Orinda Intermediate School (OIS) has been in rehearsal since January, for its Leapin' Lizards spring musical, Annie. With two complete casts (actors and technical crew) the production involves 105 students. The process requires quite a commitment from the students as they rehearse after school two to three days per week. All parents of cast members volunteer for the many facets of the production, in order to successfully bring the musical to the stage April 21st - 24th.

Beyond putting on a good show and gaining theater skills, there are other benefits to becoming involved in the Company. Core values of respect, work ethic and "heart" are stressed throughout the process. There is also an arm of education involved to enhance life skills. With Annie kids explore the depression era as they work on character identification, which gives them empathy to that time in our nation's history. Given the state of our current economy, parallels are likely to be drawn. Teamwork is reinforced during the rehearsals and a real sense of community is established. Performing and participating in the theater often mixes middle school kids in a different way, as they pursue a common interest outside the classroom.

A veteran leadership team is in place to help the students to the stage. This will be Director Clive

Worsley's seventh production with the OIS Bulldog Theater Company. He is also the Artistic Director of the Town Hall Theatre in Lafayette, and an Associate Artist with the California Shakespeare Theater. He has been teaching "Shakespeare in the Classroom" to OIS 7th graders, for the past 8 years. All students strongly benefit from Clive's experience as an award winning actor and director, who has worked in theatres throughout the Bay Area. Show producer Kathy Simon is responsible for supporting the cast and crew for her 6th play at OIS. She oversees sets, props, costumes, make-up, backstage, tickets, publicity and house operations. Her

ability to match parent volunteers with the production duties and her organizational skills are extraordinary. Music Director Yvonne Fuh-riman, Technical Manager Aubyn Severson and Choreographer Emily Morrison round out the leadership team.

There will be no better ticket in town when ANNIE takes center stage at OIS. The Bulldog Theater Company is sponsored by the OIS Parents' Club, the Orinda Arts Council and Cal Shakes (California Shakespeare Theater.) Treat yourself to an afternoon or evening of musical theater and support our community's developing young artists.

SHOWTIMES
Wednesday, April 21 at 4:30pm
Thursday, April 22 at 4:30pm
Friday, April 23 at 5:00pm and 8:00pm
Saturday, April 24th at 3:00pm and 7:00pm

LOCATION
Orinda Intermediate School Multipurpose Room
80 Ivy Drive, Orinda
925-258-3090

TICKETS
Wednesday and Thursday Matinee Show (open seating, no reserved tickets) \$6.00
All other shows are reserved seating:
Premier Seating \$10.00
Standard Seating \$8.00

ON-LINE TICKET ORDERS will be available after March 26th. Information will be posted at www.orindaschools.org/ois
BOX OFFICE is open one hour prior to each performance

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