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Youth Ink Winners, 2011

Submitted by Lisa Rodriguez

The Orinda Junior Women's Club (OJWC) is pleased to announce the winners of Youth Ink, an annual creative writing contest open to all sixth-, seventh- and eighth-grade students who live or attend school in Orinda. Each Youth Ink submission was read and critiqued by an esteemed panel of local professional writers comprised of Ann Manheimer, Melissa Manlove and Yvonne Prinz.

"This year's Youth Ink participants approached the But if you Really Knew Me... theme with honesty and creativity," said Molly Griffin Wilson, president of the Orinda Junior Women's Club. "We were particularly impressed with the number of sixth grade writers who participated this year and we hope to see this trend continue in the future."

Generous co-sponsors of Youth Ink include The Orinda Association, Orinda Community Foundation and Orinda Books. The Orinda Junior Women's Club welcomes additional sponsorships to ensure continued success.

Youth Ink winners will be honored at an awards ceremony and reading at the Orinda Library Auditorium on Thursday, April 28, at 6:00 p.m. The public is welcome to attend.

The 2011 Youth Ink winners are:

First Place, Prize of \$250:

Gabriel Moran, OIS, Grade 7, for "The Burdens of Trojuma"

Second Place, Prize of \$125:

Kate Nerone, OIS, Grade 6, for "Swimming Upstream"

Third Place, Prize of \$75:

Riley Hummel, OIS, Grade 7, for "Silver Doors"

Listed in alphabetical order, the following individuals were selected by the judges to receive an honorable mention. Each will be awarded with a \$25 gift certificate from Orinda Books.

Katherine Cane, OIS, Grade 6, "My Best Friend (If you really knew me, you would know that I love my dog, Maddie)"

Paul Cane, OIS, Grade 8, "The Alexander Parker Cattle Ranch"

Hannah Fishlow, OIS, Grade 6, "Athlete"

Olivia Fishlow, OIS, Grade 6, "Who I Really Am"

Jessica Guo, OIS, Grade 6, "But If You Really Knew Me..."

Haley Lewis, OIS, Grade 7, "Super Siblings"

Anna Saldinger, OIS, Grade 8, "She Isn't Real"

Clarissa Sandvik, OIS, Grade 7, "Strangers"

Christian Schillinger, OIS, Grade 6, "The Day I Learned"

Aoife Tejada, OIS, Grade 7, "If You Really Knew Me"

All other participants will receive a gift certificate for Loard's Ice Cream in Orinda.

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