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## Orinda Academy Celebrates 30th Anniversary

*Submitted by Miriam Schaffer*

Orinda Academy, a private, non-profit day school in Orinda for boys and girls in grades 6 through 12, celebrates its 30th anniversary this year. The milestone will be celebrated at a Crab Feed on Saturday, March 3, 2012 from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at Orinda Masonic Hall. The event is open to the public.

Ron Graydon, founder and current head of school, opened the school as North Bay Orinda School in 1982. In the early 1990's the school moved to its current site at 19 Altarinda Road, which provided ample classrooms, science and computer labs, office space, and sports fields. Its convenience to Orinda BART helped to expand enrollment beyond Lamorinda and provided transportation access for students from throughout the San Francisco East Bay. In 2003, the school changed its name to Orinda Academy. The following year the school once again expanded with the addition of two buildings housing a fitness center with a weight room, dance studio, music room, art room and a science lab. In addition, a learning center and learning specialist have been added. The school has also formed a relationship with Student Organizational Services, which has provided academic coaching for students, and Coyote Coast, which has provided counseling.

"For the past 30 years, Orinda Academy has continued to provide a challenging, college prep curriculum with small class sizes and individualized attention for smart, creative students, including those with some learning differences," says Graydon.

More information is at: <http://www.orindaacademy.org>. Event details on the 30th Anniversary Crab Feed are at: <http://tinyurl.com/7ye34tq>.

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