



# Oregon

John A. Kitzhaber, MD, Governor

## Oregon Youth Authority

Office of the Director

530 Center Street NE, Suite 200

Salem, OR 97301-3765

Voice: 503-373-7205

Fax: 503-373-7622

[www.oregon.gov/OYA](http://www.oregon.gov/OYA)

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### **MEDIA ADVISORY**

Contact: Ann Snyder, OYA Communications Office, 503-378-6023,

[ann.snyder@oya.state.or.us](mailto:ann.snyder@oya.state.or.us)

*Note: Oak Creek YCF expects to have one or more graduating youth who can be interviewed, photographed and identified by name. Other youth should not be identified by name or photograph.*



### **Albany's Three Lakes High School to award seven diplomas, three GED certificates**

Family and friends will attend commencement exercises Tuesday to applaud 10 Oak Creek Youth Correctional Facility youth as they receive high school diplomas or GED certificates during a 2:30 p.m. event at the facility, 4400 Lochner Rd., S.E., Albany.

Wearing traditional caps and gowns, seven youth will receive Three Lakes High School diplomas, and three youth will receive GED certificates. Also, two youth will receive office specialist certificates they earned through Linn-Benton Community College.

Speakers at the event will be Greg Hamann, president of Linn-Benton Community College, and Jean Straight, OYA assistant director for business services. Albany Mayor Sharon Konopa will be on hand to congratulate graduates and their families personally.

High school graduation is a significant milestone because studies show greater levels of educational achievement reduce the likelihood of new offenses later on. In all, OYA projects its high schools this spring will recognize more than one in eight youth in its close-custody facilities – 101 high school diplomas, 27 GED

certificates, three associate's degrees, and a number of vocational and other certificates.

Linn-Benton-Lincoln Education Service District provides education staff for Three Lakes High School through a contract with the Oregon Department of Education.

Oak Creek YCF, with a 75-bed capacity, is one of 10 OYA close-custody facilities statewide delivering education and treatment to approximately 900 offenders ages 12-24. OYA also supervises approximately 1,100 youth on probation and parole in communities across Oregon.

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