



*Nandini Lee Rao*

Nandini attended Oak Grove from 1975 to 1987, moving on to Thacher School to complete high school in 1991. From there she went to Scripps College, Claremont, completing her BA in Women's Studies at the University of California, Santa Barbara. After working for some time on the East Coast, Nandini decided to pursue a pre-med program, beginning at Columbia University and completing it at UCSB. Next came two years at St. Georges' University Medical School in Granada and two years doing clinical work in New York. She completed her residency with four years at the University of Connecticut, specializing in psychiatry. She began practicing psychiatry at Kaiser Permanente in 2010 and recently moved back to Ojai to take up a position with Kaiser Permanente in Thousand Oaks. In 2013 Nandini married Sudeep Rao, and in 2014 the couple welcomed their daughter Sequoia into the world.

Asked to comment on her years at Oak Grove, Nandini said, "Oh wow. Oak Grove was such an important influence. It was my school and my home in my formative years(Nandini's father is Mark Lee, first Director of Oak Grove School). I think Oak Grove fostered open-mindedness and adaptability in life. I hadn't majored in sciences when I decided to pursue a medical career so I had to go back and start at the beginning -- I really had to switch gears. My education at Oak Grove fostered inquiry at a deep level and allowed me to have the flexibility to make that transition doable. I've always appreciated not being fixed into something at a young age."