

Optimism reimagined

The logo for Optimism International Ohio District features a circular emblem with a stylized 'O' and 'I' in the center. The words 'OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL' are written around the top inner edge of the circle, and 'OHIO DISTRICT' is at the bottom. The emblem is set against a background of radiating yellow lines, resembling a sun, and is accented with blue wavy lines at the base.

January 4, 2022 (Revised) Edition



**2021-2022 Ohio
District Governor - Greg Griffin
And
First Lady - Evelyn Griffin**

Hello Fellow Optimists,

HAPPY NEW YEAR - welcome to 2022!!! As Optimists, we welcome a new year – filled with opportunities and every new year is unique – unlike any other before. Many people make New Year’s Resolutions – here are several ideas of resolutions we can make as OPTIMISTS for 2022. I hope you will consider the following resolution ideas carefully for this exciting new year...

OPTIMIST NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS

- **Attend every meeting that your club holds in 2022**
- **Actively participate in your club’s activities – whether they be fund-raising, service to youth, or even social activities for club members**
- **Attend District Conferences and Conventions – especially if you have not attended in the past**
- **Invite one guest to a club meeting or event each month in 2022**
- **Participate in the Dime-a-Day Optimist International Foundation program**
- **Live the Optimist Creed to its fullest in 2022**

New Year, New Opportunities, New Ideas, New Experiences, New OPTIMISM awaits us all.

Reimagine 2022 and help us spread OPTIMISM everywhere!



**Yours in Optimism
Greg and Evelyn**

Meeting

2021-2022 Conferences and Conventions Dates

2nd Quarter - 2021-2022 District Conference

February 11-12, 2022 – Embassy Suites and Conference Center, Dublin, Ohio - 2020-21 Award Banquet

3rd Quarter - 2021-2022 District Conference

May 6-7, 2022 – Embassy Suites and Conference Center – Dublin, Ohio - District Oratorical Contest and District Essay Winner Announced

June 30 - July 3, 2022 - 104th Optimist International Convention at the Silver Legacy Resort Casino - Reno Tahoe

The Ohio District 74th Convention

August 11-13, 2022 – Embassy Suites and Conference Center – Dublin, Ohio

New Year's is a time to reflect on the previous year and celebrate the arrival of a **new one**. It's also a time to share hopeful New Year wishes with everyone in your life, including friends, family, coworkers, club members and neighbors. After all, these are the people you made incredible memories with in 2021 and will likely continue to make memories with in 2022.

AND

Promise Yourself

To be so strong that nothing can disturb your peace of mind.

To talk health, happiness and prosperity to every person you meet.

To make all your friends feel that there is something in them.

To look at the sunny side of everything and make your optimism come true.

To think only of the best, to work only for the best and to expect only the best.

To be just as enthusiastic about the success of others as you are about your own.

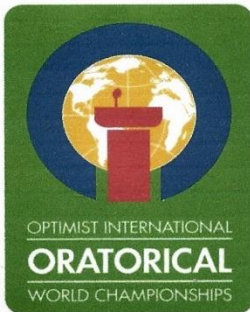
To forget the mistakes of the past and press on to the greater achievements of the future.

To wear a cheerful countenance at all times and give every living creature you meet a smile.

To give so much time to the improvement of yourself that you have no time to criticize others.

To be too large for worry, too noble for anger, too strong for fear, and too happy to permit the presence of trouble

OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL YOUTH CONTESTS 2021-2022



ORATORICAL CONTEST

Beginning in 1928, the Oratorical Contest has become the longest-running program of Optimist International. The contest is designed for young people to gain experience in public speaking and provide them with an opportunity to compete for multiple college scholarships with a pre-assigned topic.

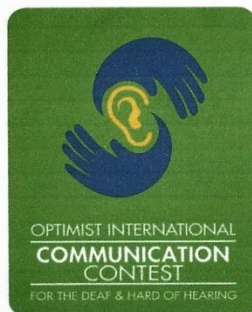
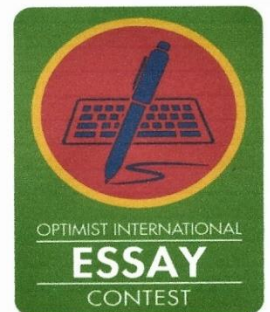
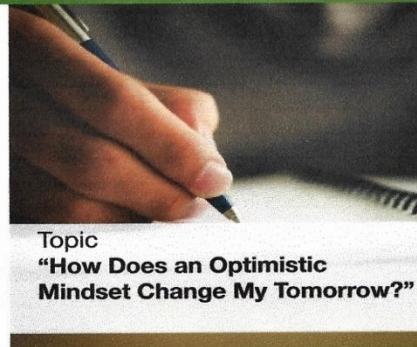
District Scholarships:
First Place: \$2,500 • Second Place: \$1,500 • Third Place: \$1,000
**with a chance to win up to \$22,500 at the
World Championships level**

ESSAY CONTEST

The Essay Contest is sponsored by Optimist International to give young people the opportunity to write about their own opinions regarding the world in which they live.

The approach can encompass a young person's personal experience, the experience of their country or a more historical perspective. In addition to developing skills for written expression, participants also have the opportunity to win a college scholarship!

One District Scholarship of \$2,500



COMMUNICATION CONTEST FOR THE DEAF & HARD OF HEARING

This contest offers an opportunity for students who are Deaf or Hard-of-Hearing to present their thoughts in the community, gaining skills, which can only come from signing or speaking to a large audience. Patterned after the Optimist Oratorical Contest, the contest offers youth the chance to compete in speech or sign language with the chance to win a college scholarship.

One District Scholarship of \$2,500

KIDS SPEAK OUT! SPEECH CONTEST

All young people can compete in the Optimist Oratorical Contest. The “Kids Speak Out” contest is a “pre-Oratorical” program that provides a more equitable competition for younger speakers.



Follow complete Official Rules posted on www.optimist.org

PLUS

The Ohio District adds to these awards by monies generated through the Ohio District “**Bill O’Neil Memorial Scholarship Fund**” provided by **YOU**, the members.

Our Annual Scholarship Fund Goal is \$4,600.00

Purpose: The Ohio District adds supplemental scholarship funds to the Optimist International Foundation scholarship awards for the winners of the Ohio District Essay, Oratorical & CCDHH contests.

How Can you Help?

1. Make an individual donation
2. Make a family donation
3. Ask your club to donate
4. Make a Memorial Contribution:
 - a. Remember a loved one
 - b. Remember a deceased member
 - c. Honor a Member of your Club or Community

Notification of Memorial Gifts will be sent. Please include a mailing address for the notification.

Questions? Please contact Tom or Jennifer Kenda @ kendolaw@gmail.com or 937-609-4557 (Tom) 937-469-6048 (Jennifer)

.....
Bill O’Neil Memorial Scholarship Fund Donation

Name: _____ Donation: \$ _____

Club Name: _____ Club #: _____

(Optional) To Honor: _____

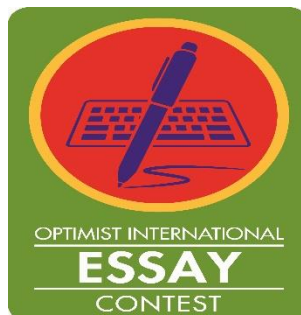
(Optional) In Memory of: _____

Please send Notification to:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Thank you for your generosity!!



Some important info/dates:

Oratorical Contest: The District finals will be held on **Saturday, May 7, 2022**, in person (World Competition slated for St. Louis in July, exact date TBD). All Zone and Region winners will receive plaques given to them at that level (engraved name slat will be ordered when winner's names are known). District winners also receive an engraved plaque. There will be three scholarships awarded to the District winner, 2nd, and 3rd place. This contest is non-gender specific. The top winner advances to the World Competition.

- Two winners at the Club Level
- Two winners at the Zone Level
- Two winners at the Regional Level
- First, 2nd & 3rd Place winners at the District Level. Only First Place advances to the World Competition

Club Contests: Conducted by March 6, 2022.

Zone Contests: Conducted by March 27, 2022.

Regional Contests: Conducted by April 17, 2022.

Information packets can be requested from Optimist International or can be downloaded from www.ohiodistrictoptimist.org or www.optimist.org. The link leads to an application, brochure, and Club Planning Guide.

Lt. Governors: Please mail all winners' paperwork to your Regional Chair immediately after your zone contest. Regional coordinators should mail paperwork (please make sure all blanks are completed) to Debe Dockins as soon as your contest is finished.

Region 1:

Prior Contest Venue: Brunswick Municipal Building

4095 Center Road,

Brunswick, OH 44212

Chair: **TBD** **Zone 1** – Lt. Gov. Tom Kennedy **Zone 2** – Lt. Gov. Kevin Zehe

Zone 3 – Lt. Gov. Debe Dockins

Region 2:

Prior Contest Venue: University of Northwestern Ohio

1441 N. Cable Road (400 Crown Building)

Lima, OH 45805

Chairs: **TBD** **Zone 4** – Lt. Gov. Ray Abel **Zone 5** – Lt. Gov. Tom Kennedy

Region 3:

Prior Contest Venue: Southminster Church

7001 Far Hills Avenue

Centerville, OH 45459

Chair: **TBD** **Zone 6** – Lt. Gov. Brenda Moore **Zone 7** – Lt. Gov. Pat Behn

Zone 8 – Lt. Gov. Darrel Basford

At each stage, it's very **important** that all the paperwork is completed. In order for the scholarships to be processed, I need to submit the following to OI:

- The Contestant's Application Form for the 2020-2021 Contest
- The Zone/District Regional/District Entry Form which must include the number of contestants that participated in each level of the contest AND the appropriate signatures, including the contestants.'
- The Optimist Regional Information Form from the Regions which will be held in April.
- A Copy of the contestant's birth certificate or passport. No other age verification documents will be accepted.
- A copy of the contestant's Club Contest Evaluation which can be found in the Club Planning Guide. *This is often missed, but OI considers it mandatory.*
- A printed copy of the speech.
- PLEASE make sure you have signatures of club officials.

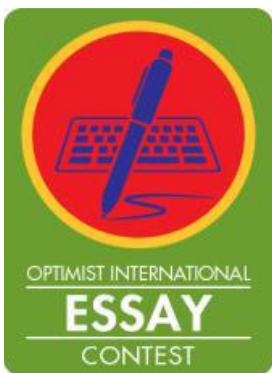
Debe Dockins, Ohio District Oratorical Chair

588 Shelbourne Lane; Apt. 207

Dayton, OH 45458

DebeD87@gmail.com *and* ddockins@wcpl.lib.oh.us

Cell: 937-266-2331



Essay Contest: Happy New Year Ohio District Optimists,

It's not too late for your clubs to participate in the 2021-22 District Essay Contest. Contact your local schools to make them aware of this great opportunity for their students to win an academic scholarship. Students can participate in both the Oratorical Contest or the Communication Contest for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing and the Essay Contest. Reach out now!

Thank you,

Judy Martinson

Ohio District Essay Contest Chair 21-22

Ten Things You Need to Know About the 2021-22 Ohio District Optimist Essay Contest

1. Theme – “**How Does an Optimistic Mindset Change My Tomorrow?**”
2. Who is eligible? Students under the age of 19 as of Oct. 1, 2021
3. How long is the essay? 700-800 words
4. What is the deadline to submit to the Ohio District – February 28, 2022
5. Is there a fee? No
6. What does the club submit?
 - Unmarked winning essay
 - Completed student application
 - Completed District application
 - Age verification
7. Where do I mail the entry?

Judy Martinson

Ohio District Optimist Essay Chair

350 N Village Dr.

Dayton, Ohio 45459

8. Who do I call or email with questions? Judy Martinson at 937-620-4028(c) or 937-331-8429(h) or email **Judith.martinson@sbcglobal.net**. **Please leave a message if I do not answer the phone. My cellphone accepts text messages.**
9. Is there information on the Ohio District website? Yes. A link is posted at **ohiodistrictoptimist.org**, where you can find the Club Planning Guide and everything your Club Chair will need to conduct the contest.
10. What does the Winner of the Ohio District Contest receive? The winner receives a scholarship of \$2500 from Optimist International and an additional scholarship of \$1000 from the Ohio.

Application for 2021-2022 Optimist International Essay Contest

Name _____ M F

Address _____

City _____

State/Province _____ Zip/Postal Code _____

Telephone (_____) _____

E-mail _____

Date of Birth _____ Age _____

Have you participated in any other Optimist Club's Essay Contest this school year? Yes No

Contestant Agreement:

I have studied the rules of the contest, and I will be bound by all of the requirements.

Contestant's Signature _____ Date _____

Parent or Guardian Permission: _____

I give my permission for my child/ward to participate in this contest.

Signature _____ Date _____

Relationship _____

I, _____, grant the Optimist Club/International my permission

to use a picture or video of my son/daughter _____ for their public relations

purposes. Optimist Club/International may use the photo in any publication they see fit.

Sponsoring Optimist Club Name _____

Sponsoring Optimist Club Number _____

Language: English French

Please send application to address below:

Official Topic: "How Does an Optimistic Mindset Change My Tomorrow?"

Each contestant must be given a copy of the rules and complete the entry form. The rules contain information about the contest, judging and awards.

Section I - General Rules

1. The Optimist International Essay contest is divided into two levels of competition: Club and District.
2. Contestants must enter through a local Optimist Club, or an A/Large contest if a local club is not available. An A/Large student may not have competed in an Optimist International or District contest in the same year.
3. Contestants must compose an original essay with limited guidance from others. Webster's dictionary defines an essay as an analytic or interpretive literary composition. Works of fiction or poetry will not be accepted.
4. All District-level competitions must have a minimum of 3 contestants participating.
5. Optimist International will have the right to edit, publish or otherwise duplicate any essay entered into the contest without payment to the author.

Section II - Qualifications for Contestants

1. The contest is open to contestants under the age of 19 as of October 1st of the current Optimist International contest year (October 1 - September 30) and who have not yet completed secondary school or its equivalent, including CEGEP students in Québec, Canada. There is no minimum age. Students must enter in the District in which they reside. U.S. students attending school on military installations outside the U.S. are eligible to enter in their last home of record.
2. Contestants are eligible for only one Club's contest during any given year.
3. No student who has previously won a District Optimist Essay contest scholarship will be

eligible to compete at any level of the competition again.

4. All contestants at each level of the contest must show proof of age before competing. Optimist Clubs may require a copy of birth certificate or passport before participating if offering a Club scholarship separate from Optimist International. District winners must provide a copy of birth certificate or passport with the District entry documentation.

Section III - Contest Rules

1. Participants must write on the official topic.
2. Each entry must begin with a title page containing the official topic, number of words, writer's name, address, phone number, name of school and date of birth.
3. At the top of page 1 should be the official topic and the number of words (penalty of 2 points for lack of topic and 5 points for failure to identify the total number of words correctly).
4. Essays must be typewritten and double-spaced. (Deduction of 5 points)
5. Essays must contain at least 700 words but no more than 800 words. Every word of the essay is counted. This does not include the title, bibliography or footnotes. Hyphenated words count as 1 word (Deduction of 5 points for each 25 words over/under limit).
6. Each page of the essay must be numbered starting with page 1 of the essay, not the title page. The numbers must be centered at the bottom of each page.
7. Any quotations or copyrighted material used must be identified properly. For example, use of a specific writer's format (such as MLA) may be specified by the instructor overseeing the contest. Failure to identify non-original material will result in disqualification.
8. No references can be made in the essay that identifies the student, parents, school, community.

sponsoring Optimist Club or District. (Deduction of 5 points or fraction based on degree of identification)

9. An essay may be written in either English, French, or Spanish if the language used is an official language of the country in which the sponsoring Club is located.
10. The entry must be stapled together in the upper left-hand corner. Covers of any type are not accepted.

Section IV - Judging and Timing

1. Judging will be completed by a panel of three qualified judges. At the Club level, judges may be Optimist Members, who are not acquainted with the contestants. At the District level, judges must be non-Optimists.
2. In an effort to conceal the identity of each contestant, each entry will be assigned a number by the Essay Contest Chair. The assigned number will be placed on the title page and detached and retained by the Essay Contest Chair. The judges will be given the essay hearing only the assigned number.

3. Judges will not discuss or compare essays being judged.
4. Only judges can assign a penalty or award points.

Section V - Scoring

- Scoring procedures at all levels of the contest will be identical.
1. Material Organization - logical interpretation of the subject, adherence to topic: 30 points
 2. Creativity - 10 points
 3. Vocabulary and Style - phrasing and continuity: 30 points
 3. Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling: 20 points
 4. Neatness: 5 points
 5. Adherence to Contest Rules - prepared in the proper format: 5 points

Section VI - Penalties

1. Failure to list official topic: 2 points
2. Failure to accurately identify total number of words: 5 points
3. Failure to type essay and double-space: 5 points
4. Failure to stay within the 700-800 word limit: 5 points for each 25 words or fraction based on degree of identification.
5. Self-identification: 5 points or fraction of based on degree of identification

Section VII - Awards

1. Club level - medalion scholarship for the first-place winner
2. District level - plaque and a \$2,500 college scholarship for the first-place winner
 - A. Scholarships are funded by the Optimist International Foundation in the U.S. and Caribbean or the Canadian Children's Foundation in Canada. Scholarships awarded are for use at college, university or trade school only.
 - B. All scholarships will be payable to the educational institution of the recipient's choice, subject to the approval of Optimist International.
 - C. All scholarships will be administered by Optimist International.
 - D. Winners of an Optimist International scholarship must claim their scholarship by the age of 25.

For more information contact:

Contact Person: _____

Contact Address: _____

Contact Phone or Email: _____

Club Essay Winners

Kettering Noon Optimist Club Essay Contest Winners



Pictured are **Kettering Noon Optimist Club Essay Contest Winners**: First place- Eden Washington, Alter HS, Second Place - Anna Hooper, Alter HS and Third Place - Dominic Mariani, Alter HS with Judith Martinson, District Essay Chair and Greg Griffin, Ohio District Governor



East Dayton Optimist Essay Contest Winners: First Place – Sarah Ochs Carroll HS and Second Place - Jayen Razor Belmont HS



*The Ohio District is elated to help celebrate the following Club's Anniversary Date for the Month of **January***

Club	City	Charter Date	Years	Club#	Zone
Van Wert	Vert Wert	01/07/1981	41	24391	4
Dayton Riverdale	Dayton	01/17/1952	70	24345	6
Brunswick	Brunswick	01/28/1986	36	24052	2
Monroe	Monroe	01/30/2002	20	24508	8

*This is a total of **167** years of serving the young people of the Ohio District.*

*As you can see, these clubs started off a **new year**, together, as a newly formed Optimist club. They have served our Ohio District, Optimist International, the youth and their community for all these years.*



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*Please extend an Ohio District Optimist welcome to the following **eleven** new members, who have joined the Ohio District Optimist family in the month of **December, 2021.***

New Member	Club	Sponsored by
Worthy Cottrill Jr	Bazetta-Cortland	David O Kelm
Matt Fuchilla	Bazetta-Cortland	David O Kelm
Jeffrey Jiang	Bazetta-Cortland	Michael Jewell
Jeanne Schierloh	Centerville South-Metro	Judith A Keegans
Richard Vogel	Kettering-Dor-Wood	David B Dutton
Donna Brown	Kettering-Noon	Susan Armstrong
Melanie L Beach	Kettering-Noon	Susan Armstrong
Karen Litke	Lima-Shawnee	Jenene T Nicholson
Bryan Haines	Toledo-Westgate	Jamie Wilson
Rhonda Wilson	Toledo-Westgate	Jamie Wilson
Leslie Dunnick	We Care Arts	Sue Labatzky

Sponsor a New Member

If you know someone who shares the ideals of Optimist International, consider inviting them to join your club and help **"Bring Out the Best in Kids."**

Welcome them as a new member into Your Optimist Club

Do you want to get others more involved in your community? Welcome a new Member into your Club who share a desire to **"Bring Out the Best in Kids!"** Show them how Optimists organize and participate in hands-on, interactive projects for kids. As an Optimist Member, let them know that not only will they connect with their local community, they'll also boast affiliation with thousands of Optimists around the world.



*From the desk of the
Ohio District Bulletin Editor:*

Darrel Basford

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Monroe, Ohio 45050

(513) 600-3528 aviator2012@yahoo.com



