GATEway News



SERVING OPTIMIST CLUBS IN GEORGIA AND TENNESSEE

Volume 1 Issue 2 February 2022



INFORMATION THAT YOU NEED



Conference and Convention Sites GATEway District Optimist International 2021-2022



GATEway First Quarter Conference – October 15-17, 2021

Embassy Suites at Chattanooga Hamilton Place

2321 Lifestyle Way Chattanooga, TN 37421 423-602-5100

RATE: \$125.00 + tax

2021-2022 GATEway District Kick-Off



GATEway Second Quarter Conference – February 11-13, 2022

Hotel Indigo Athens

500 College Avenue Athens, GA 30601 706-546-0430

RATE: \$115.00 + tax

GATEway District Hall of Fame Recognition 2020-2021 Awards Banquet



GATEway Third Quarter One Day Conference – April or May 2022

Date to be Determined

Courtyard by Marriott

180 Barnes Avenue Carrollton, GA 30117 678-664-5200

RATE: To Be Determined

GATEway District Essay Contest Presentation GATEway District Oratorical Contest GATEway District Communications Contest for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing



GATEway District Convention – August 4-7, 2022

Unicoi State Park & Lodge

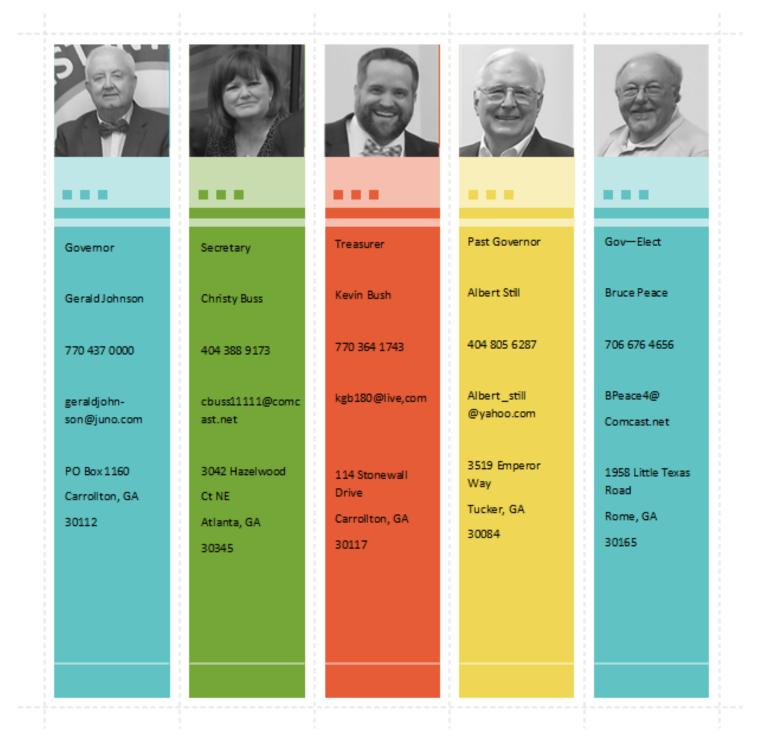
1788 Highway 356 Helen, GA 30545 1-800-573-9659

RATE: \$139.00 + \$12.00 resort fee + tax

Unicoi State Park & Lodge

Lieutenant Governor-Elect Training Officer-Elect Training **District Governor Election GATEway District Optimist of the Year Recognition**





News Stories Needed!

Do you have local club news? Do you have committee news? Do you have other Optimist news? Send stories and photos to Dianna Johnson at ddjohnson@juno.com or Gerald Johnson at geraldjohnson@juno.com Next issue deadline is November 10th.



Notes from the First Lady Dianna Johnson:

Well, I have not cooked much this month. February has been very busy for the Johnson family. Like all of you, life just takes over sometimes. Our calendar was full, but so are our hearts.

February is the month of love . . . So let me tell you all how much you and your support this Optimist year are a true blessing to both Gerald and I. We enjoyed seeing those of you who attended the 2nd quarter conference in Athens. It is my hope that you will all sign up and attend the 3rd quarter conference in Carrollton. One of my favorite Optimist programs is the Optimist Oratorical Contest which will be that Saturday morning. We are excited to host you at our property for lunch along with fun and games.

And yes, I do plan to cook some goodies for the event.

LEARNING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Lt. Governors, Club Presidents, Club Secretaries, Club Treasurers, and Club Foundation Representatives please remember that the deadline for you to complete the officer training on the Optimist Learning Management System is March 31, 20022.

Please check and make sure you have taken this short training during this Optimist Year. You must take it each year to get credit during the current year.

Once you have completed the short lesson then please print your certificate or a copy of your page showing the completion. The system is still have minor problems and does not always report to OI that you completed the lesson. If you would please email me text me a copy of your certificate, Thanks geraldjohnson@juno.com 770-437-0000

Also remember that all of your clubs officers must compete this short training by March 31st for your club to receive the Honor Club Award,

Thanks For All Of Your Hard Work!





"Living The Creed" Award.....

This year is the 100th Anniversary of the Optimist Creed.

To honor this event our District is encouraging clubs to recognize citizens in their communities that "Live The Creed" in their everyday life and in service to their communities.

There are no specific requirements for this award. The individual club should pick those they wish to honor. Clubs may honor Optimist members or non-members, or both. There also are no limits to the number of awards a club may award.

Just pick the person to receive the award, you may send the names to Governor Gerald and he will print them and return to you.

geraldjohnson@juno.com 770-437-0000.

Optimist Oratorical Info you should know

Clubs should be finishing local contest and sending the winning student to the next level of the contest, which is the Zone Contest.

Club contest should be completed by March 5th. If there is a problem with this then please contact your Lt. Governor.

Please let your Lt. Governor know if your club will be holding an Oratorical Contest. They need this information as soon as possible so that the Zone contest can be planned.

Remember that you should send the \$35.00 fee from your club to the Lt. Governor with the entrance package. Your student can not be judged in the Zone contest without the complete package including the fee.

Lt. Governors should be thinking about dates and locations for your Zone contest so that clubs mat give this information to their students.

Area Contest will be as follows:

Area I includes Zone 11. 12, & 13 Area II includes Zone 1, 2, & 3 Area III includes Zone 4, 5, & 6 Area IV includes Zone 7, 8, 9, & 10

If you have ORATORICAL Questions please call Richard Bracknell, Gateway District Oratorical Chair at 770-314-2425.

2022 Agriculture Week Award

March 21 - 27, 2022 is National Agriculture Week. In Honor of this Clubs are encouraged to honor those in their communities that are ACTIVE IN AGRICULTURE OR ANY ASPECT OF SUPPORTING AGRICULTURE. Who may the club honor? Anyone that farms, grows plants, or works in an area to support agriculture.

Examples include:

An active cattle farmer
Someone growing vegetables or other farm products to sell
Agriculture or horticulture teachers
Extension Agents
4-H and FFA members and leaders
Greenhouse growers
Garden Center Owners
Outstanding agriculture students
Others that promote agriculture

You may give awards in several different areas.

Since our earliest days agriculture has been our largest industry and remains so in many communities today. Agriculture week is intended to honor the heritage of agriculture and those that work in the industry.

Clubs are asked to participate in this District project, take photos and submit them on social media.....you can receive A&A points for the project and for entering the photos in the district photo contest. Don't forget to submit the photos and a brief story to your local new media.

For more information and certificate information contact Governor Gerald at geraldjohnson@juno.com or 770-437-0000

CHILDHOOD CANCER IS STILL AN OPTI-MIST PRIORITY

MATCHING GRANTS are available:

Hello, My GATEway Optimists Friends, my name is Michele Sansenbach and I am your GATEway District Childhood Health and Wellness Program Chairperson

As you may or not know, in cooperation with Optimist International, Optimist Clubs have developed an all-encompassing program called "Childhood Health and Wellness Program." What does this entail?

Optimist Clubs throughout the world have recognized a broad range of childhood health-related issues.

The Childhood Health & Wellness Program will build on the highly successful **Childhood Cancer Campaign** to expand our impact. Clubs and Districts will now have the opportunity to initiate projects and services to improve the quality of life for children in their communities across a broader spectrum of needs.

Childhood Health & Wellness will include four focus areas (not limited to the examples below):

- **Healthy Lifestyles** (Child Obesity, Healthy Eating, Physical Fitness, Happy Heart Advice, March of Dimes)
- Chronic Diseases (Childhood Cancer, Juvenile Diabetes, HIV, Multiple Sclerosis, Muscular Dystrophy, Sickle Cell Anemia)
- Mental Health (Depression, Bullying, Abuse)
 Disabilities Physical, Intellectual & Developmental (Autism, Special Olympics)

It is estimated that there will be 13.7 million cases of childhood cancer between 2021-2050. Unless there are major improvements in diagnosis and treatments, of this. We can make a difference by investing in our Childhood Health and Wellness Program, Cancer is not the only adversary to our kids!

There is an Optimist International Foundation Matching Grant Program for CHILDHOOD HEALTH & WELLNESS found on the OI web page:

https://www.oifoundation.org/downloads/Childhood Health Wellness Grant Application Fillable.pdf





Gateway Photography Contest

Second Quarter Conference, Athens, Georgia Feb. 11—13, 2022

Photography Contest For Optimist Members

Go to Gateway Member Photo Contest/Facebook.com and upload your entries.

There are five categories:

- 1. District Conference/Convention
- Club Projects
- Club Fundraisers
- 4. Club Social Events
- 5. Other Optimist Events

Each entry should include four photos or more (more photos are welcomed, but points will not be awarded based on the number of photos, we are looking for a story to be told), points awarded for composition, creativity, photo quality, original ideas, anything that promotes the Optimist Creed.

When you upload your you include your name, category, and name of enter multiple times each



photos make sure club name, event. You may auarter.



Dime-A-Day

Optimist International and Optimist International Foundation coexist as two separate organizations that support each other. Optimist International Foundation is the fundraising arm of Optimist International, and works to develop funds to support the endeavors of Optimist International and its mission.

When Members and Clubs make a contribution to support Optimist International Foundation, they are, with that gift, supporting Optimist International itself and themselves as a Club as well.

With just one dime a day, you can become part of the movement of "Helping Optimists Help Kids" and become part of a large group of Foundation supporters who realize what a difference they make every day in the lives of children.

Would you consider making a gift of just a dime a day to assist the charitable work of Optimist International?

The Dime⁻A⁻Day level is reached by a contribution of \$36.50 to the Foundation within one Optimist Year, and is recognized by the presentation of a pin.

Building a future where every kid counts Can you spare a **dime a day**?

Sign me up! Please accept my \$ donation. (Enclose check, payable to Optimist International Foundation, referencing "Dime-A-Day" in the memo section.)					
□ Sign me up! Please accept my \$ donation. Charge my □ MC □Visa □ Discover □ American Express					
Account # Exp/ Signature: Security Code					
Sign me up! Please deduct \$3.05 per month from my checking account.					
Checking account number:(Please include a copy of a voided check)					
Name Email					
Club Number Member Number					
Address					
CityStateZIPBBB.					
Please return to: Optimist International Foundation • Dime-A-Day Campaign • P.O. Box 952126 • St. Louis, MO 63195					

Have Questions about Optimist International Foundation? Call Kathy Forster at 256-371-0062.

GATEWAY CCDHH CONTEST

Wouldn't it be wonderful if Optimists could help heal the young suffering from DEAFNESS. Until deafness is no longer a problem for children, Optimist Clubs sponsor the CCDHH contest for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

The contest speech is presented orally or by signing. Winners receive a scholarship to help further their education.

Optimist International provides guidelines for us to follow when conducting the contest. We ask that if you plan to have a CCDHH Contest that you follow all the rules as directed.

<u>Please DO Not</u> combine the CCDHH Contest with the Oratorical Contest. Judges and interpreters must come from the deaf community and be able to judge oral and signing speeches. Successful programs usually happen when clubs work with their local school system's programs for the deaf. A recent Audiogram must be included in the student's contest application.

As of now we are not planning any contests before the first of next year. If Covid problems continue in our school systems, there will only be club contests.

We will not conduct Zone or District Contests that might put our contestants in harms way. Heaven knows the young people have enough problems without us adding more!

Please contact Ellen Strait [straitl@cox.net] for further information. Application forms may be found on line from Optimist International.

Thank You, Ellen Strait Gateway District Chair CCDHH

2021—2022 Optimist Oratorical Contest



"Staying Optimistic in Challenging Times"

DISTRICT DEADLINES

Local Club Contest Deadline March 5, 2022

Zone Contest Deadline March 19, 2022

Area Contest Deadline April 2, 2022

District Contest Deadline May 15, 2022

For Informatiom Contact District Chair Richard Bracknell
770 314 2425 Richard.Bracknell@carrolltoncityschools.net

Third Quarter Conference Agenda

9:00 AM **Opening Session**

9:15 Am **District Board Meeting**

Approve Secretary/Treasurer for 2022-2023 Year Approve Zone Alignment for 2022 – 2023 Year Elect Lt. Governors For 2022 – 2023 Year

10:30 AM District Oratorical Contest

Presentation Of 2022 District Essay Winner

1:00 PM Lunch At The Johnson's Farm

All Afternoon Fun And Games At The Farm

Corn Hole Put-Put Golf Homemade Ice Cream Contest Other Games and Awards



GATEway Registration Third Quarter One-Day Conference, April 30, 2022

Carrollton Cultural Arts Center & Johnson Farm 251 Alabama St. Carrollton, GA 30117

1036 Sand Hill Shady Grove Rd. Carrollton, GA 30116



Optimist's Name		Email Address			
Address		Phone			
		Phone			
City, State, Zip		Is this your first District Meeting? Yes			
Club Name		Club Number	Zone Number		
Club Office 2021-202	22	District Office 2021-2022			
Complete this section only if Spouse/Guest is registering:					
Spouse/Guest Name Is this Spouse/Guest first District Meeting? Yes			ng? 🔲 Yes		
Club Name		Club Number	Zone Number		
Club Office 2021-202	22	District Office 2021-2022			
Additional Information about the Meeting:					
Courtyard by Marriott in Carrollton at a special rate. We will begin the day on Saturday at the Cultural Arts Center with the District Board Meeting, followed by the District Oratorical Contest. Afterwards, the activities will move to the Johnson Farm (home of Governor Gerald Johnson) for lunch and an afternoon of fun and games. Get ready for the official GATEway District Cornhole Tournament! And so much more! Look for more details coming your way by email through Constant Contact.					
Additional Information about Spouse/Guests, Children, and First Timers:					
Special guests, including spouses, friends, and partners are invited! Children are also welcome at this family-friendly event! All guests are encouraged to attend the District Oratorical Contest and participate in the afternoon of fun activities planned for the day. A special registration price is being offered to "First Timers" to encourage their attendance and participation in this District activity.					
Registration Fees:					
Full Registration will include: All Meetings, Oratorical Contest, Lunch and Fun and Games on Saturday Afternoon					
Dietary Needs					
Optimist	\$35.00 before 04/15/22, \$45.00 after 04/15/22 or or	•	\$		
Spouse/Guest	\$35.00 before 04/15/22, \$45.00 after 04/15/22 or or	n-site	\$		
First Timer	\$15.00 before 04/15/22, \$25.00 after 04/15/22 or or	n-site	\$		
Child, 12 & Under	\$10.00 before 04/15/22, \$20.00 after 04/15/22 or or	n-site	\$		
	TOTAL	ENCLOSED:	\$		
Make checks payable to "GATEway District Optimist International" and send with registration form to: David Harter, 7616 Navarre Drive, Knoxville, TN 37919. Pre-registration must be postmarked no later than Friday, April 15, 2022. Cancellation, if necessary, must be made no later than Friday, April 22, 2022. You may reach David by email at davidhartertn@yahoo.com or by phone at 865-250-1511. Registration is also available through the District website at www.gatewayoptimists.org .					
Make hotel accommodations by calling the Courtyard by Marriott, 180 Barnes Avenue, Carrollton, GA 30117 directly at 678-664-5200 and indicate you are with the Gateway District Optimists. Or use the following link: GATEway at Courtyard April 29-30. The Optimist rate is \$139 for both Standard/King or Standard/Double Queen Beds. Hotel cut-off date is Friday, April 8, 2022. After that date, room rates may increase and reservations will depend on availability. The hotel rate of \$139 is available for two nightsApril 29 and April 30.					

Optimist International Presents: THE OPTIMIST VISUAL ARTS COMPETITION!



Guidelines

- 1. The contest will be held at the Club level and International level.
- Club level judging may be by Club members, professional artists/ instructors, or by public voting.
- The topic for the Visual Arts Competition shall be the same as the OI Kids Speak Out Contest. This year's topic is 'Optimism'
- Artist must be age eleven or lower as of October 1, 2021.
- 5. Clubs may provide awards to participants and winners at the local level.
- Digital images of the Club 1st place winner(s) must be submitted to OI no later than May 1, 2022.
- Voting will be on-line on the Optimist International website from May 15 through May 30, 2022.
- There will be a scholarship award for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place OI winners for each category (painting and drawing).
- At the International level, 1st place in each category will receive a \$250 scholarship; 2nd place in each category will receive a \$150 scholarship, and 3rd place in each category will receive a \$100 scholarship.
- The winning artwork will be displayed at the Optimist International Convention, and featured on the OI website.



This exciting new program is designed to encourage and celebrate youth visual art skills in two categories — painting and drawing. Scholarships will be awarded for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place at the OI level for each category. The Optimist Visual Arts Competition — Paintings and Drawings gives the youth we serve another outlet for their creativity!



For more information about Optimist International Programs, please visit optimist.org, e-mail programs@optimist.org or call us at 800-500-8130

Optimist International Presents: MUSICAL HAPPINESS MUSIC MAKES PEOPLE HAPPY



Guidelines

- The topic for the Instrumental and Vocal Competition is 'Optimism'.
- Contestants must be a minimum age of 11 and 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.
- Any performances must be original material or in the public domain (free of copyright and/or royalty free).
- 4. All entries must be submitted through YouTube using the #OptimistMusicalHappiness2022 no later than March 1, 2022. Also, email the YouTube link to <u>programs@optimist.org</u> and in the subject line write #OptimistMusicalHappiness2022 and include the attached form. The Instrumental or Vocal submission shall be no longer than three minutes.
- 5. At the International level, 1st place in each category will receive a \$250 award; 2nd place in each category will receive a \$150 award and 3rd place in each category will receive a \$100 award.
- The winners will be announced on the International Day of Happiness on March 20, 2022.



This exciting program is designed to encourage and celebrate youth Instrumental and Vocal categories.
There will be awards for 1st, 2nd, and 3nd place at the OI level for each category.
The Instrumental or Vocal submission shall be no longer than three minutes.

The Musical Happiness
Competition – Instrumental
and Vocal gives the youth
we serve another outlet for
their creativity!



For more information about Optimist International Programs, please visit optimist.org, e-mail programs@optimist.org or call us at 800-500-8130

OPTIMIST PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST



Highlighting "The Optimist Creed"

Photographers for the contest should be students at any age up through high school and prior to postsecondary education. Students are asked to submit photos that illustrate/exemplify one of the ten verses/lines of "The Optimist Creed".

Purpose

To expose young people to "The Optimist Creed" and our philosophy of Optimism and to assist them with developing an interest in the area of photography.

- This provides an avenue for a student's artistic expression through photos.
- The contest introduces both students and parents to "The Optimist Creed" as our philosophy. It makes them aware of a local Optimist club, its activities, and can serve as an opportunity to promote membership.

Rules

Each Optimist club may conduct its own contest and select the winners by whatever method of judging the club deems appropriate but should adhere to guidelines. Many clubs will utilize experienced photographers/art teachers as judges (some of your club members may have this type of experience).

- A club may conduct their contest with students from elementary through high school. Entries may be from any age range, or a club may wish to limit its own contest for example, to middle school, or high school.
- 2. Club should select three winning photos to be identified as a 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place prize. You have an option to select a Grand Place/Grand Prize winner overall as well. Club will decide whether it will give medals, plaques, or something else as their prizes. All contestants should receive a participation certificate. If all entries are to be displayed at an event, you can conduct a "People's Choice Award" as well, this would be done by ballots (one ballot per attendee).
- 3. Photos are to be judged for the photography quality and for how well the photo illustrates/exemplifies the verse of the Optimist Creed, which is identified on the photo mat frame. A beautiful photograph which does not match the Creed statement it attempts to illustrate, is not necessarily better that a lesser photo that is more to the point.
- 4. Photos may be any of these sizes: 4" x 6", 5" x 7", or 8" x 10", black and white or color photo. NO photo-shopping enhancements should be used other than basic cropping of the photo.
- Photos should be matted, with "The Optimist Creed" verse/line stated clearly on the front of the mat frame, so judges will know what the photo is to exemplify. The photographer's name and other identifying information, including the entry form should be attached to the back.
- 6. To increase the number of entered photos, a club may allow each student photographer to submit more than one photo, up to three. However, no contestant may be awarded prizes for more than one photo.

Cotimist Photography Contest

- 7. Clubs can select their winners by any procedure they desire (a single judge, small panel of qualified judges, vote of members at a club meeting where the photos are displayed). A scoring criteria sheet has been provided in the Optimist Photography Contest information. This contest is new and is a club level contest, but the club's first place photo should be sent to the District for display during the District Oratorical Contest, and receive voting for a "People's Choice Award". This is another avenue to engage participants, their parents/guardians, and other attendees at an Optimist program. One ballot per attendee is permitted. A ballot box will be provided and a person designated to tally those votes and announce the winner at the District Oratorical Contest, plus provide something as the award for being selected the "People's Choice Award" winner for the District. Please share a copy of the winning photos with your district and OI. Please recognize winners in your club's newsletter, etc. All clubs should complete their contest by August 1, 2020, but may determine their own due date/deadline date for photos to be submitted for judging.
- 8. If contest winners will be by a ballot vote of the attendees (one ballot per person), the votes will be tallied with a weight of 5 points for a first place vote, 3 points for a second place vote, and 1 point for a third place vote, with the highest vote totals being awarded the prizes. Depending on the number of photos submitted, some adjustment to the procedures may be required in order to clearly establish the top three photographs.
- 9. If there are any additional questions, contact the Chairperson for the contest.
- 10. RULES AND DATES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

The Optimist Creed

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.



For more information about Optimist International Programs, please visit optimist.org, e-mail programs@optimist.org or call us at 800-500-8130

Optimist Photography Contest

OPTIMIST PHOTO CONTEST ENTRY FORM

Highlighting "The Optimist Creed"

NAME	AGE:				
ADDRESS					
CITY/STATE/ZIP CODE					
SCHOOL:					
PARENT'S PHONE:					
PARENT'S EMAIL:					
OPTIMIST CLUB: CLU					
Line/Verse of the Optimist Creed that photo will exemplify:					
I certify that I took the picture myself(Student's Signature)					
(Student's 8	signature)				
You have permission to print the picture, information, and photo of my child.					
(Parent's Signature)					
Due date for photo entries:					
Place above application on the back of each photo submitted (max of three).					
Photos should be mounted in a frame mat. Line of creed needs to be on the					
front of the mat frame. Photos can be 4" X 6", 5" X 7", or 8" X 10".					
NO PHOTOSHOPPING OF PHOTOS, ONLY CROPPING IS ALLOWED.					
Submit your photo entries and form to:					
Via mail or deliver to:					

Optimist Photography Contest 3

Good evening,

I am sending the attached details and applications please for these upcoming contests:

-Optimist Musical Happiness Competition:

Deadline for Entry: March 1st, 2022 (very sorry for the late announcement on this one, but still time for inspired songwriting!).

Song Topic: Optimist Two Categories are Instrumental and Vocal.

Contestants: Between the age of 11 and 19.

*1st, 2nd, and 3rd place cash prizes!

**This contest has only the international level, and entries are submitted through YouTube. (Included in the contest details is the link). Â Winner announced on March 20th International Day of Happiness.

-Optimist Visual Arts Contest:

Deadline for Entry (for the International level): May 1st, 2022.

Topic: Optimist. Two Categories- Painting and Drawing.

Contestants: Elementary School Age, (11 or younger).

1st, 2nd, and 3rd place cash prizes!** Club contests can be held prior, and can be judged and awarded at your discretion. First and second place winners in each category can advance to the international,(suggested).

-Optimist Photography Contest:

Deadline for Club Contest: End of the school year.

Topic: A tenet from the Optimist Creed.

Contestant: Elementary through high school age.

1st, 2nd, and 3rd place prizes!

District wide contest will be held at our August Conference, with winners from the club contests.

Thanks so much for your help, please forward this message to your clubs leadership.

Optimistically,

Alan Flint,

Supply Chair,

Arts and Music Chair,

GATEway Optimist District 678-409-5940

The Optimist Creed

Promise Yourself

GATEway Optimist
P. O. Box 1160
Carrollton, Georgia 30112

Gerald Johnson,
Governor
770-437-0000
geraldjohnson@juno.com

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

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

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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.

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