

GATEway News



SERVING OPTIMIST CLUBS IN GEORGIA AND TENNESSEE

Volume 1

Issue 1

October, 2021

In This Issue . . .

**BELLEVUE, TENNESSEE
IS NEWEST CLUB IN
GATEway DISTRICT**

**2021-2022 OPTIMIST YEAR
STARTS...CONFERENCE
SITES ANNOUNCED**

ESSAY CONTEST

DIME A DAY

CHILDHOOD CANCER

**INSTALLATION OF NEW
OFFICERS FOR LOCAL
CLUBS**

**MESSAGES FROM THE
GOVERNOR AND FIRST
LADY**





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



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



Governor

Secretary

Treasurer

Past Governor

Gov—Elect

Gerald Johnson

Christy Buss

Kevin Bush

Albert Still

Bruce Peace

770 437 0000

404 388 9173

770 364 1743

404 805 6287

706 676 4656

geraldjohnson@juno.com

cbuss11111@comcast.net

kgb180@live.com

Albert_still@yahoo.com

BPeace4@Comcast.net

PO Box 1160
Carrollton, GA
30112

3042 Hazelwood
Ct NE
Atlanta, GA
30345

114 Stonewall
Drive
Carrollton, GA
30117

3519 Emperor
Way
Tucker, GA
30084

1958 Little Texas
Road
Rome, GA
30165

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:

Our relationships are so important as we move through life. Many of those relationship memories come with an attachment to foods. Several optimists at the Lt. Gov. Retreat asked for this recipe. It is one that is loved by many of my family and friends. It is one of my favorites because of the memories it brings. Every time I visited my Grandmother Roberts (my father's mother) she always had these tea cakes for us to eat. I hope this will bring back memories for some of you and that others will create their own memories with this recipe.

Tea Cakes

1 cup butter softened
2 cups sugar
3 large eggs
1 teaspoon vanilla extract
3 ½ cups all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon baking soda
½ teaspoon salt
2 tablespoons white decorating crystals

Beat butter at medium speed with electric mixer until creamy, gradually add large eggs, 1 at a time, beating until blended after each addition. Add vanilla extract, beating until blended.

Combine flour, soda, and salt. Gradually add flour mixture to butter mixture, beating at low speed until blended after each addition.

Divide dough in half; wrap each portion in plastic wrap and chill 1 hour.

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Roll half of dough to ½ inch thickness on a floured surface. Cut out cookies with a 2 ½ inch round cutter and place 1 inch apart on sheets. Sprinkle with decorating sugar crystals (optional).

Bake 10 minutes or until edges begin to brown; let stand on baking sheet for 5 minutes. Remove to wire racks to cool. Repeat process with remaining dough.

Makes approximately 3 dozen cookies.

Optimist New Year!

October is here so that means it is “Optimist New Year”.....

I am excited to start the 2021-2022 year as GATEway Governor, but I am also excited about the achievements of the district under the leadership of Governor Albert Still during the 2020-2021 year. Governor Still helped lead the effort to build a new club in the Bellevue community near Nashville. Our district was one of the first districts in Optimist International to hold an “in person” District Conference after the covid shut down, and with the leadership of Governor Still and International Convention Host Chair Gwen Gabel, our District was host to a very successful International Convention in Atlanta!(Optimist International was the only major civic club to have a live convention this year.)

I am also excited about the opportunities our Optimist Clubs have to serve our communities this coming year. Continuing our scholarship projects, completing dozens of local projects, growing our membership, growing the number of JOI Clubs in GATEway District, building new clubs to serve more communities, adding new projects, and growing new leaders are just a few ways we will have an exciting year.

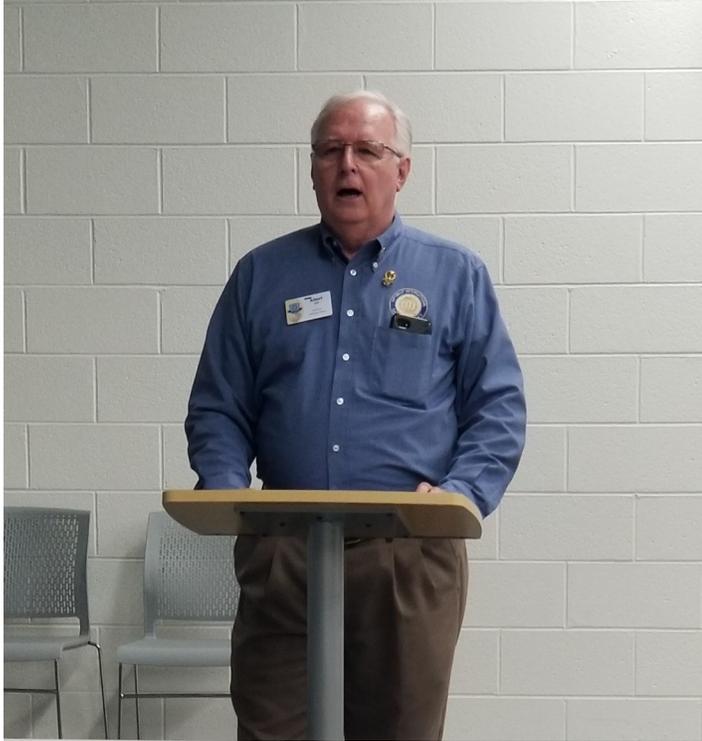
This year we will also be celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Optimist Creed. If we “Live The Creed” we will have a successful year. Let’s do it!

Governor *Gerald Johnson*



Bellevue Area Optimist Club Chartered

On August 10th the Bellevue Area Optimist Club was chartered. The new club was sponsored by the Plainfield, Indiana Club and The Optimist Club of Tucker, Georgia. Nashville resident and Plainfield Club member, Michael Woodward started the new club building effort and was joined by GATEway Governor Albert Still of the Tucker Club and Past Governor Mary Still, as well as Governor Elect Gerald Johnson. After several weeks of a combination of Zoom and face to face meetings the club was chartered and has 18 charter members. The new club looks forward to serving the Bellevue and West Nashville communities. Kristin Turner, on the right with the Club Bell, was elected Charter President and Chris Green was elected the Charter Secretary-Treasurer. Governor Albert Still, top photo on the right welcomed the new members to the Optimist organization.



IN HONOR - IN MEMORY- VETERAN BANNER EMBLEM

Contribution and Request Form

To receive your Club's Honor / Memorial / Veterans Banner Emblem and embroidered name bar of the individual, please fill out the form below and send it in with your \$100 donation. For subsequent \$100 gifts recognizing other individuals, embroidered banner emblems will be sent upon request.



For multiple Name Bars, please fill out additional forms or list additional names on a separate sheet of paper.

| | | | |
|--------------|------------|---|--|
| Donor Name: | | Club Name: | |
| Club Number: | Date Sent: | Contribution Amount: (\$100 for each name) | |

Please type or print clearly in the appropriate box below. This is how the Name Bar will be embroidered.

| |
|---|
| For Deceased Individuals In Memory of: |
| For Living Individuals In Honor of: |
| For Veterans Name and Military Branch: |

*To arrange notification to individual or family, fill in the box below.
(Sent within two working days of contribution receipt at Foundation offices)*

| | |
|--|--|
| Name & Address of person to be notified: | |
| NOTE: Must be filled in for notification to be sent. Leave blank if no notification necessary. | |
| Type or Print Name & Address for mailing patches in the box at the right >> | |
| NOTE: This will be used as a mailing label | |

| |
|--|
| Signature: |
| Daytime Telephone: (with area code) |

Mail Form with Contribution to:
Optimist International Foundation
P.O. Box 952126
St. Louis, MO 63195



Club will receive year bar credit, annual recognition, and lifetime gift credit for honor/memorial/veteran contributions. Allow 3 weeks for banner emblem processing. Questions? Contact the Foundation 800-500-8130 / info@oifoundation.org / FAX 314-535-7436

CHILDHOOD CANCER IS STILL AN OPTIMIST 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
2. Club Projects
3. 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 photos make sure you include your name, club name, category, and name of event. You may enter multiple times each quarter.



photos make sure you include your name, club name, category, and name of event. You may enter multiple times each quarter.



OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL
F O U N D A T I O N

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 _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

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.

2021 GATEway Convention—Augusta, GA





Local Club News



East Ridge Optimist Club

October 4 at 11:33 AM · 🌐

East Ridge Optimist Club officers finishing LMS training for next year. It was an evening of learning, fellowship and Pizza. We look forward to an exciting 2021-2022 Optimist year.



Senoia Optimist Club

September 26 at 3:14 PM · 🌐

The Optimist Club of Senoia hosted a Fishing Derby for Kids on Saturday, September 18, 2021, at Marimac Lakes Park in Senoia. The derby was for youth from 5 to 15 years old.

There were 84 youth in attendance with their parents and grandparents. Members of the Senoia Optimist Club were also on hand to register the participants, assist as judges, and to provide first aid if necessary.

86 fish (and 1 turtle) were caught under the City's catch-and-release program.

Optimist member and Fishing Derby Chair Keven Marais thanked everyone for participating, and he also recognized the sponsors for this special event: Dick's Sporting Goods, Legacy Solutions LLC, and Jacob's Table. Special thanks are extended to the Coweta County Foundation for awarding a grant to the local Optimist Club. The Optimist Club also appreciates the City of Senoia for making Marimac Lakes Park available for the derby.

All of the participants received a tackle kit and a fish identification chart. Kids without equipment were given poles that they could keep. Also, a large number of children won either a gift card from Dick's Sporting Goods or a new rod and reel donated by Legacy Solutions LLC.



Debra Bracknell Langley ▶ Optimist Club Of Temple Ga.

October 5 at 9:06 AM · 🌐

Optimist Club of Temple presented Neal Shelnett a Community Service Award for his contribution to the USDA food distribution during 2020-21!



Optimist Club of West Georgia

October 4 at 8:48 PM · 🌐

This evening Members of the Optimist Club of West Georgia and friends and family packaged the components for 720 science projects for the West Georgia Youth Science and Technology Center to distribute to students in the West Georgia area. Thank you WGYSTC for the opportunity to serve area students and thank you Holly Pope, the official photographer of the Optimist Club of West GA, for the photo!

Installations Of 2021—2022 Club Officers

GATEway district Governor, Gerald Johnson installs the new club President of the Optimist Club of Douglas County, Daisy Weddle.



Optimist Jim Thompson of the Athens, Tennessee Club was surprised at the club installation dinner with an 89th Birthday Cake and a celebration of his 50th year as an Optimist member. District Governor Gerald Johnson presented Jim with a certificate in honor of his 50 years of service.





Governor Gerald Johnson installed the new officers for the Forsyth-Cumming Optimist Club in September.



The Athens, Tennessee Optimist Club celebrated the New Optimist year with awards, a birthday party, and installation of the 2021-2022 Club Officers by Governor Gerald Johnson.

GATEway News



500 College Ave, Athens GA 30601
www.indigoathens.com
706.546.0430

Complimentary WiFi for guests and meetings
One block from downtown with 150+ dining, shopping, & entertainment venues
24-hour fitness center
Flat screen TV's; spa inspired showers with Aveda products
Security on-site; dedicated parking lot with secure access to lobby & guest floor elevators
Gallery @ Hotel Indigo-Athens featuring quarterly exhibits of artwork
IHG Rewards Club points awarded for every stay
Leadership in Energy & Environmental Design Award-Winning Hotel
Exceptional Rate @ \$115 per night
Onsite parking @ \$5.00 per night

| | | |
|---|---|---|
|  | <h2 style="margin: 0;">GATEway Registration</h2> <p style="margin: 0;">Second Quarter Conference, February 11-13, 2022 Hotel Indigo - Athens 300 College Avenue Athens, GA 30601</p> |  |
|---|---|---|

| | | |
|------------------------------|---|--------------------|
| <u>Optimist's Name</u> | <u>Email Address</u> | |
| <u>Address</u> | <u>Phone</u> | |
| <u>City, State, Zip</u> | Is this your first District Meeting? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | |
| <u>Club Name</u> | <u>Club Number</u> | <u>Zone Number</u> |
| <u>Club Office 2021-2022</u> | <u>District Office 2021-2022</u> | |

Complete this section only if Spouse/Guest is registering:

| | | |
|---|---|--------------------|
| <u>Spouse/Guest Name</u> | Is this Spouse/Guest first District Meeting? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes | |
| Does your Spouse/Guest (Optimist) prefer attending: <input type="checkbox"/> General Session <input type="checkbox"/> Spouse/Guest Activity | | |
| <u>Club Name</u> | <u>Club Number</u> | <u>Zone Number</u> |
| <u>Club Office 2021-2022</u> | <u>District Office 2021-2022</u> | |

Additional Information about the Hotel:

Hotel Indigo is the eco-friendly boutique hotel with sophisticated updated accommodations in the heart of historic Athens, GA, located one block from the vibrant downtown area where dining, shopping, and entertainment venues abound. **A parking fee will be charged for overnight guests. The parking rate is \$5 per night.**

Additional Information about Spouse/Guest Activities and Children's Activities:

There will be a separate off-site Saturday lunch and tour planned for spouses/guests at this conference. Details will be announced at a later date. There are no special activities planned for children at this conference.

Registration Fees:

| | | |
|---|--|----------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full Registration for Member will include: All meetings, breaks, Saturday lunch, and Saturday night banquet with entertainment • Full Registration for Spouse/Guest will include: Saturday activities, Saturday lunch, and Saturday night banquet with entertainment | | |
| | | <u>Dietary Needs</u> |
| Optimist | \$125.00 before 01/28/22, \$135.00 after 01/28/22 or on-site | _____ \$ |
| Spouse/Guest | \$125.00 before 01/28/22, \$135.00 after 01/28/22 or on-site | _____ \$ |
| One Day | \$40.00 (includes meetings and breaks only) | _____ \$ |
| Individual tickets may be purchased for the following: | | |
| Saturday Lunch | _____ at \$30.00 | _____ \$ |
| Saturday Night Banquet | _____ at \$50.00 | _____ \$ |
| Sunday Breakfast | _____ at \$25.00 | _____ \$ |
| Total Enclosed: | | _____ \$ |

Notice: When purchasing individual tickets, Optimist members must pay the \$40 Daily Registration fee in addition to the meal ticket price for each day registered.

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, January 28, 2022**. Cancellation, if necessary, must be made no later than **Friday, February 4, 2022**. You may reach David by email at davidhartern@yahoo.com or by phone at 865-250-1511.

Make hotel accommodations by calling the Hotel Indigo-Athens directly at 1-866-808-1483 and reference Gateway District Optimist International (block code: GD2). Or use the following link: [GATEway District Conference February 11-13](#). From there select the room type (Rate \$115.00/Standard King or Standard Double Queen Beds). Hotel cut-off date is **January 19, 2022**. After that date, room rates may increase and reservations will depend on availability.

Application for 2021-2022 Optimist International Essay Contest

Name _____ M F Date _____/_____/_____
 Address _____
 City _____
 State/Province _____ Zip/Postal Code _____
 Telephone (____) _____/_____/_____
 E-mail _____/_____/_____
 Date of Birth _____/_____/_____
 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

- The Optimist International Essay contest is divided into two levels of competition: Club and District.
- Contestants must enter through a local Optimist Club, or an AI-Large contest if a local club is not available. An AI-Large student may not have completed in an Optimist International or District contest in the same year.
- Contestants must compose an original essay with limited guidance from others. Webster's dictionary defines an essay as an analytic or interpretative literary composition. Works of fiction or poetry will not be accepted.
- All District-level competitors must have a minimum of 3 contestants participating.
- 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

- 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.
- Contestants are eligible for only one Club's contest during any given year.
- No student who has previously won a District Optimist Essay contest scholarship will be

eligible to compete at any level of the competition again.

- 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

- Participants must write on the official topic.
- 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.
- 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).
- Essays must be typewritten and double-spaced. (Deduction of 5 points)
- 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).
- 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.
- 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.
- 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)

- 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.
- The entry must be stapled together in the upper left-hand corner. Covers of any type are not accepted.

Section IV - Judging and Timing

- 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.
- 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 page 1 of the essay. The title page will then be detached and retained by the Essay Contest Chair. The judges will be given the essay bearing only the assigned number.
- Judges will not discuss or compare essays being judged.
- Only judges can assign a penalty or award points.

Section V - Scoring

Scoring procedures at all levels of the contest will be identical.

- Material Organization - logical interpretation of the subject, adherence to topic: 30 points
- Creativity - 10 points
- Vocabulary and Style - phrasing and continuity: 30 points
- Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling: 20 points
- Neatness: 5 points
- Adherence to Contest Rules - prepared in the proper format: 5 points

Section VI - Penalties

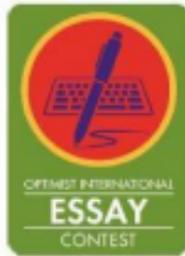
- Failure to list official topic: 2 points
- Failure to accurately identify total number of words: 5 points
- Failure to type essay and double-space: 5 points
- Failure to stay within the 700-800 word limit: 5 points for each 25 words or fraction based on degree of identification.
- Self-identification: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

Section VII - Awards

- Club level - modalism scholarship for the first-place winner
- District level - plaque and a \$2,500 college scholarship for the first-place winner
- 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 a college, university or trade school only.
- All scholarships will be payable to the educational institution of the recipient's choice, subject to the approval of Optimist International.
- All scholarships will be administered by Optimist International.
- 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: _____



2021-2021 Optimist International Essay Contest

Topic:

"How Does an Optimistic Mindset Change My Tomorrow?"

2021-2022 District Essay Chair: Dot Sayer

Email: dotsayer57@gmail.com

Cell: 770-823-2923

"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!"

This contest is open to students under the age of 19 as of October 1, 2021 (and not enrolled as a degree seeking student of a post-secondary institution). There is no minimum age. Essays must be typewritten and double-spaced and contain not less than 700 and no more than 800 words. Works of fiction or poetry are not eligible.

Contest rules and applications can be downloaded from optimist.org

DEADLINES:

Winning essay and application package must be received at the next level
no later than:

Club to Zone: must be received by Lt. Governor by Jan. 31, 2022

Zone to District: must be received by Dot Sayer by Mar. 15, 2022

District to OI: must be received at OI by April 15, 2022

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.

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.

