

OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL ORATORICAL CONTEST

WHO: Students under the age of 19 years as of December 31 of the current school year and who are educated in the United States, Canada or the Caribbean.

HOW TO ENTER: Interested students submit a speech on the pre-assigned topic to their local Optimist Club. To find out the contact in your area, please e-mail the Programs Department at programs@optimist.org.

WHEN:

STUDENTS

The deadline to enter is determined by the sponsoring Optimist Club. All Club-level contests are typically held by late March.

CLUBS AND DISTRICTS

The District deadline to submit winners to Optimist International is June 15 of the current school year. Optimist International does not set Club/Zone/Regional deadlines.

For an application with contest rules, go to http://www.optimist.org/Form/Oratorical_Rules_Pad_10-11.pdf.

The Optimist Oratorical Contest gives youngsters the chance to speak to the world. More than \$150,000 in college scholarships funded by the Optimist International Foundations is awarded annually from this program.

First conducted in 1928, this is the second most popular Optimist International Program. Nearly 2,000 clubs participate in this program each year. The winners at the Club level receive medallions and Zone winners receive a plaque. Districts have the opportunity to provide two \$2,500 scholarships or a first place scholarship of \$2,500, a second place scholarship of \$1,500, and a third place scholarship of \$1,000.

For additional information, please contact the Optimist International Programs Department by e-mail at programs@optimist.org, or call (800) 500-8130, ext. 235.