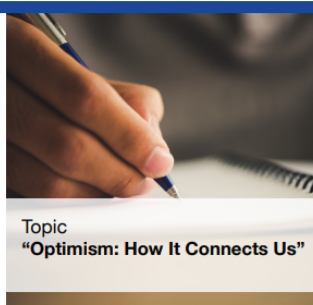


## ESSAY CONTEST

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!



Topic  
"Optimism: How It Connects Us"



### Essay Contest

Topic for the 2024 school year is: "Optimism: How It Connects Us"

Prize: 1st \$500 - 2nd \$300 - 3rd \$200

Deadline: Feb 5, 2024

**Purpose** This contest is sponsored by Optimist International to give young people room to develop their own views around a central idea. In addition to the opportunity for written expression, participants have the chance to win a college scholarship!

**Who:** The contest is open to contestants under the age of 19 as of October 1st, 2023 and who have not yet completed secondary school or its equivalent. There is no minimum age.

**How To Enter:** Interested students must submit this application with an attached essay document in written (must be legible) or typed format on the pre-assigned topic. Length 700-800 words (Title, footnotes and bibliography are not included in the final word count). Hyphenated words count as one (1) word. Words are to be counted manually.

Please submit this application and the Optimist International official application located here: [https://optimist.org/documents/2024/programs/23-24\\_CCDHH\\_Application.pdf](https://optimist.org/documents/2024/programs/23-24_CCDHH_Application.pdf)

Students Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Level \_\_\_\_\_

Name of School \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/guardian/teacher Full Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

The top three winners will be asked to attend an event to be presented their essay and prizes and photos will be taken.

Event Date - All entries will be contacted to attend the Oratorical, CCDHH, and Essay event:

Date: Feb 17th, 2023 at 1:00 PM CST

Location: City Academy - 4175 Kingshighway Blvd, St. Louis, MO 63115



Contact the Optimist Club of St. Louis with any questions at: [optimistmo@gmail.com](mailto:optimistmo@gmail.com)