

# 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 Sunrise Ventura and East Ventura

Sponsoring Optimist Club Number 14845 14850

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 At-Large contest if a local club is not available. An At-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 competitors 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.

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 copy-righted 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.

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.

11. 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.

12. 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.

13. Judges will not discuss or compare essays being judged.

14. Only judges can assign a penalty or award points.

15. Self-identification: 5 points or fraction of based on degree of identification

16. District level - medallion scholarship for the first-place winner

17. 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.

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.

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 copy-righted 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.

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18. All scholarships will be payable to the educational institution of the recipient's choice, subject to the approval of Optimist International.

19. All scholarships will be administered by Optimist International.

20. Winners of an Optimist International scholarship must claim their scholarship by the age of 25.

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### 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 - medallion 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 a 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.

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### For more information contact:

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Ventura, CA 93003

Contact Phone or Email: newittfamily@hotmail.com

(805) 744-2971