

Optimist Club of Moore

Local Optimist Club to Sponsor Oratorical Contest for Students

The Optimist Club of Moore is encouraging area students to speak their minds about the topic "Is There a Fine Line Between Optimism and Reality" as part of the Optimist International Oratorical Contest for the 2018-2019 year. The Contest will be held at the Courtright Silverdome located at Third St., Courtright, ON on Feb. 9th, 2019.

The Optimist Club will judge the local students' speeches based on content and presentation to determine the top winners. Winners will receive a monetary prize for 1rst, 2nd and 3rd place and the winning speeches will be sent to the Zone level, and possibly the District level for the opportunity to win college scholarships. Winners of the District level will be eligible to compete in a regional competition in St. Louis, Missouri, at Saint Louis University. Winners of the regional contests will compete in the World Championship also held at Saint Louis University. All expenses will be covered. Students could possibly win up to \$22,500 in scholarships!

The contest is open to students under the age of 19 as of October 1, 2018. The deadline to hand in speeches is Feb. 2nd, 2019. Students wishing to participate in the oratorical contest can find out more about the contest by contacting the club contest chair Erica Cassidy by phone at 519-328-1428 or by email at erica.cassidy@acuren.com.

Optimist International is one of the world's largest service club organizations with over 80,000 adult and youth members in almost 3,000 clubs in the United States, Canada, the Caribbean and Mexico and throughout the world. The Optimist Oratorical Contest is one of the organization's most popular programs, with more than 2,000 clubs participating annually. Carrying the Mission Statement, "By providing hope and positive vision, Optimists bring out the best in youth, our communities, and ourselves. Optimists conduct positive service projects that reach more than six million young people each year. To learn more about Optimist International, please call (314) 371-6000 or visit the organization's website <u>www.optimist.org</u>.