



Middleton Optimist Club

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Local Optimist Club to Sponsor Oratorical Contest for Students

Middleton WI – The Middleton Optimist Club is encouraging area students to speak their minds about the topic **"Healing the World with Optimism"** as part of the Optimist International Oratorical Contest for the 2020-21 school year.

The Optimist Club will judge the local students' speeches based on content and presentation to determine the top winners. Winners will receive a medallion, certificate, and \$50 gift certificate, which can be used at Middleton-area businesses. Winners of the Zone & then 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. Students could possibly win up to \$22,500 in scholarships! The contest is open to students under the age of 18 as of October 1, 2021.

"As they prepare for their future, many of our local students need experience expressing their thoughts and opinions to an audience," Club President Steve Britt said. "The Oratorical Contest challenges them to do just that and also offers an opportunity for scholarships. In this way, our club hopes to bring out the best in each of them and help them achieve their goals for the future."

The deadline to hand in speeches is [March 15, 2021](#). Students wishing to participate in the oratorical contest can contact [David O'Keefe at middletonoptimist@gmail.com for more information.](#)

The Middleton Optimist Club has been participating in the Optimist Oratorical Contest for [many](#) years and has been active in the community since [over 50 years](#).

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.

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