

2017 – 2018 ORATORICAL CONTEST INFORMATION
FOR ALL LT GOV’S, CLUB PRESIDENTS, AND CHAIRPERSONS

The title of the Oratorical talk is: **“Where Are My Roots of Optimism”**

Club Presidents and Chairpersons: As soon as you know whether you are having a Club Contest or not, please tell your Lt. Gov.

All levels of the Oratorical Contest are to be Combined Gender Contests.

Dead Line for Lt Gov's to submit contestant names going to the District Contest is Saturday, April 21st.

Lt. Gov. is responsible to set the date for the Zone Contest to meet the District Submittal deadline, and the Club Contest must be completed before the Zone Contest date.

Date for the District Contest: Friday and Saturday, April 27 & 28, 2018.

Contestant Entry Fee to District is \$100 per contestant.

Location of District Contest: Watertown, South Dakota at 3rd Quarter District Meeting.

OI Regional and World Competition: Wednesday—Friday, June 27, 28, and 29, to be held in St Louis.

Club Chairs, you want the Club Planning Guide; Download at <http://optimist.org>; Scholarship Contest; Club Planning Guide

Lt. Governors Same drop down box but District Planning Guide

Club Chairpersons: If one of your contestants win your Zone Contest and are moving on to the District Contest, Club Chairs or LT. Gov’s are responsible to make hotel room reservations in Watertown for contestants, and parents for Friday night, April 27th. If additional rooms are required, Clubs or the guests must make reservations.

District Contest Information:

1. The following items are required to be sent by email to Dave Nichols at nicholsedina@aol.com by Saturday, April 21st, see checkoff list on page 18 of the Club Chair Planning Guide.
 - a. Zone/District/Regional/District Entry Form. (Page 17 in Planning Guide)
 - b. Student Application for 2017-2018 Contest. (Between Page 5 and 6 in Planning Guide)
 - c. Legible copy of Birth Certificate or Passport
 - d. Electronic Copy of speech in “Word” format.
 - e. Electronic Copy of Student Evaluation. (Page 12 in Planning Guide)
2. Entry Fee of \$100 made out to the DMM. (Normally paid by the Club)
The entry fee for the contestant only includes:
 - a. Contest Entry Fee
 - b. Friday night Pizza Party
 - c. Saturday noon Award Luncheon

3. Check-in for the District Contest in Watertown, SD is Friday April 27 between 3:00 and 5:00 PM.
4. Friday Contest will start at 6:00 PM
5. Pizza Party will be at the completion of the Friday night contest with food arriving around 8:30 PM. (All contestants, Optimists, and guests are welcome. There is a fee for the food, and reservations must be made by Saturday, April 21st.)
6. Saturday Luncheon:
 - a. 1st and 2nd place District Winners will be announced.
 - b. 1st and 2nd place District Winners to receive Plaques, and 1st place winner will give their talk to the group.
 - c. Note: if the contestant and all their guests choose to leave before the luncheon, the Club is liable for meal payment. There are no refunds as reservations were made earlier.
7. 1st and 2nd place District Winners each receive a \$2,500 scholarship to the college of their choice from Optimist International.
8. The 1st place winner will move on to the Optimist International Regional Contest. This contest will be held Thursday, June 28 in St. Louis, MO. with Regional Winners moving on to the World Contest Friday, June 29 in St. Louis, MO.

Please call, text, or email me with your questions and I will help you in any way I can.

Dave Nichols
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