

2025–2026 Communication Contest for Deaf and Hard of Hearing (CCDHH)

The Dakota Manitoba Minnesota (DMM) District invites students to participate in the 2025–2026 Communication Contest for Deaf and Hard of Hearing (CCDHH).

A Scholarship of \$2500 will be awarded to the contest winner. The official rules for this contest are specific and posted on the [Optimist International website 25-26 CCDHH](#)

The topic is:

“The Moment I Realized I Belonged — My Definition of Community”

Eligibility

- Open to students through grade 12 in the US and Canada.
- Must have an uncorrected hearing loss of 40 decibels or more (supported by an audiogram completed within the last 24 months).
- Contestants must be under 19 years old as of October 1, 2025, and not have completed secondary school.

How to Enter

1. The official rules for the contest are quite specific, and are posted on the Optimist International website. https://www.optimist.org/documents/2026/programs/25-26_CCDHH_District_Planning_Guide.pdf
2. Complete the application form. https://www.optimist.org/documents/2026/programs/25-26_CCDHH_Application.pdf
3. Signatures from the student, a parent/guardian and sponsoring DMM Optimist Club completed on application form.
4. Submit a recent audiogram (completed within the last 24 months) (signed by a qualified audiologist with your application).
5. Email your completed application, a recent audiogram, copy of your birth certificate or passport, and a copy of your speech in MS Word (no pdf) to the contest chairperson by March 13, 2026.

Required Documents (to be emailed to the Contest Chairperson)

- Application form – Student, Parent / guardian and a sponsoring DMM club signatures on application https://www.optimist.org/documents/2026/programs/25-26_CCDHH_Application.pdf
- Audiologist report (completed within the last 24 months)
- Copy of your birth certificate or passport, and a copy of your speech in MS Word (not pdf) to the contest chairperson by March 13, 2026.

Contact Information for questions or to find a sponsoring Optimist Club, contact:

Jeri Gorman, Chairperson

Email: jeri.gorman@gmail.com

Phone: 612-868-7945

Oct 21, 2025