



WELCOME TO THE 2026 DMM OPTIMIST DISTRICT CONVENTION



SHARE YOUR OPTIMISM
PROMOTE GROWTH

BEE the CHANGE

AUGUST 21-22, 2026 • RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA

Dear Fellow Optimists,

On behalf of the Rapid City Optimist Club and the Dakotas–Minnesota–Manitoba (DMM) Optimist District, welcome to the 2026 DMM Optimist Convention!

We are excited to host you in the beautiful Black Hills of South Dakota for a weekend of fellowship, inspiration, learning, and fun.

Whether this is your first District Convention or you are a longtime attendee, we hope you will enjoy reconnecting with friends, meeting fellow Optimists from across our District, and celebrating the incredible work our clubs do to *Bringing Out the Best in Youth, Our Communities, and Ourselves*.

BANQUET ATTIRE



Our Saturday evening Banquet & Dance will be Business Casual attire.

We invite everyone to dress comfortably while celebrating another successful Optimist year together.



HELP US MAKE A DIFFERENCE



Ronald McDonald's "House in the Hills"

Please bring new or lightly used children's or tasteful adult books to be donated to the House in the Hills Ronald McDonald House. Your thoughtful donation will provide comfort, encouragement, and enjoyment to families staying at the House while their loved ones receive medical care. Thank you for helping us *BEE the Change* through this meaningful service project.



SILENT AUCTION

Please consider bringing a gift basket or auction item representing your club, community, or state/province. The Silent Auction is always a favorite convention event and helps support District programs.



CLUB PROJECT DISPLAY

Bring 1–3 photographs showcasing your club's favorite service projects, fundraisers, or youth activities. Photos may be any size and will become part of our Convention Club Project Gallery.

YOUR CONVENTION PACKET INCLUDES:



Convention Agenda



Maps and directions to convention hotels and event locations



Convention contact information



Saturday evening Banquet & Dance



DMM Apparel Storefront Information
Look great, show our DMM pride, and "BEE the Change"! Details on how to order convention apparel and other DMM logo items.

Please review the agenda before arriving so you won't miss any of the exciting activities, educational sessions, speakers, fellowship opportunities, and our Saturday evening Banquet & Dance.

RSVP FOR UNREGISTERED GUESTS

Please RSVP if guests who are not registered for the convention will be attending any of the following events:

- ☐ Thursday Evening Social — FREE
- ☐ Friday – Mt. Rushmore Meal & Lighting Ceremony — \$25.00 per guest
- ☐ Saturday – DMM Convention Banquet & Dance — \$25.00 per guest

Please RSVP by August 15, 2026.

Email or contact Governor Cricket to RSVP:

governor@optimist-dmm.org

605-490-3424



We Can't Wait to See You!

Thank you for making the trip to Rapid City and for everything you do to serve youth and your communities. Your dedication and optimism continue to inspire others throughout our District.

Travel safely, enjoy the beauty of the Black Hills, and come ready to learn, laugh, reconnect with friends, and

BEE the Change!

With Optimist Spirit,

Kristi "Cricket" Palmer

DMM Governor 2025–2026

Rapid City Optimist Club

Hosts of the 2026 DMM Optimist District Convention



QUESTIONS:

Contact Governor Cricket at 605-490-3424
or governor@optimist-dmm.org

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Bringing out the Best in Youth, Our Communities and Ourselves.