

February 2018

The Lakeland Optimist Club will be sponsoring the annual Oratorical Contest. There will be separate gender contest. There will be four levels of the contest, Club, Zone, Regional and District. The boy and girl winners of the Club contest will each receive \$100 and medallions. The Zone and Regional will each receive Plaques. The Boy and girl winners of the District contest will each receive a \$2,500 scholarship to the college, university or trade school of their choice. And The World Championships, it is possible to win scholarships up to \$22,500.

The topic of the speech is: “Where are My Roots of Optimism?”

The student should prepare a 4 to 5 minute speech in the assigned topic.

The contest is open to students under the age of 18 as of October 1st of the current Optimist International Contest year (October 1—September 30). For 2017-18, contestants must still be 17 as of October 1, 2017.

The Club contest will be held at Paradise Lakes Clubhouse 426 Apache Trail, Mulberry 33860, 1-863-425-5175 on Monday March 12, 2018 at 6:30 pm. The Zone contest will be held at Plant City Recreational Center 1904 S. Park Road, Plant City, Fl 33563 on Monday April 9th, 2018 at 6:30pm. The Regional contest will be Saturday April 21, 2018 at 2:00 pm at Plant City Recreational Center 1904 S. Park Road, Plant City. Speakers are asked to arrive by 1:30 pm. The District contest will be Saturday May 5th, 2018 at the Hilton Orlando/Altamonte Springs 350 S. Northlake Blvd. Altamonte Springs 32701 1-407-830-1985. Contestants are asked to arrive by 1:30 pm. The Optimist International Oratorical Regional Competitions will be held in St. Louis, Missouri at Saint Louis University on June 28, 2018 via live streaming and the World Championships will be held on June 29, 2018 at Saint Louis University via live streaming.

Please fill out enclosed oratorical application and bring with you on March 12, 2018 along with a copy of your birth certificate.

Thanking you for your interest in this contest.

Linda Stamps
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