



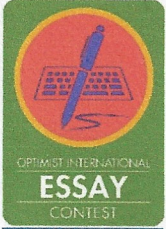
# Twin City Area Optimist Club

P.O. Box 475 ♦ Festus, Missouri 63028

[www.twincityoptimist.org](http://www.twincityoptimist.org)

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November 14, 2023

Dear Jefferson County Educator:

This letter is to make you aware of a great opportunity for the students in your school. All southern Jefferson County high school students, under the age of 19, as of October 1, 2023, are invited to enter the upcoming 2023-2024 **Optimist International Essay Contest**. This year the Twin City Area Optimist Club is offering cash prizes:

**\$500 for 1<sup>st</sup> place**

**\$250 for 2<sup>nd</sup> place**

**\$125 for 3<sup>rd</sup> place**

The winning essay will then be submitted to the district level competition. The winner of the district level competition will be awarded a \$2,500 college scholarship. All essays must be postmarked by January 31, 2024. The essay topic is:

### **Optimism: "How It Connects Us"**

Any encouragement you can give your students and teachers to participate is greatly appreciated. Enclosed are the specifics of the contest. Participants should pay special attention to the **contest rules, scoring, and penalties** included in sections III, V, and VI of the application.

If you have any questions, please contact Mary Kay Scott at [scottmarykay@gmail.com](mailto:scottmarykay@gmail.com) or 314 795-3604.

Entries should be mailed to:  
Twin City Area Optimist Club  
Attn: Mary Kay Scott  
P.O. Box 475  
Festus, MO 63028

Thank you for your dedication to your students and taking the time to support them as they participate in this great opportunity.

Sincerely,

Mary Kay Scott  
Chair

Debbie Hogenmiller  
Co-chair