



Twin City Area Optimist Club

P.O. Box 475

Festus, Missouri 63028

www.twincityoptimist.org

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Affiliated with Optimist International

Serving Youth and Community since 1919

Special Edition 2023 Art Contest



Twin City Area Optimist Club
President Peggy Scott
2023-2024

The Twin City Area Optimist Club would like to recognize and thank the artists who participated in our annual art contest. The talent of local artists is always amazing. We appreciate all the art teachers who instruct their students and encourage them to express themselves through their art. A special thanks to the family and friends who attended the art contest and provided the support these artists deserve. Students sharing their talents with the community enriches all our lives.

Twin City Area Optimist Art Contest



Annual Art Contest
November 5, 2023
2:00pm-4:00pm
Elks Lodge 1721
4 Elks Acres
Festus, MO



The Twin City Area Optimist Club Art Contest took place on Sunday, November 5, 2023 at Elks Lodge 1721 in Festus. The annual event had 322 entries with 215 student artists exhibiting artwork. The students and their art were represented by the following schools in southern Jefferson County: Festus High School, De Soto High School, De Soto Junior High School, Herculaneum High School, Senn-Thomas Middle School, Hillsboro High School, Hillsboro Junior High School, Crystal City High School, Danby-Rush Tower (R-7) Middle School, St. Pius X High School and Jefferson R-VII. Three entries were submitted by homeschooled students. Entries were showcased in art categories, photography, three-dimensional and graphic/digital art.

Best of Show winner was Sailor Tucker, Herculaneum High School with his entry "Untitled." First place winners in three art categories were: Art – Ages 12-13 Julianna Dalaviras, Hillsboro Junior High School, with her entry "Serenity", Art – Ages 14-15 Katie Strawhun, De Soto High School, with her entry "Penguin" and Art-Ages 16-19 Kyla Cook, De Soto High School, with her entry "Three Crosses." Taking first place in photography was Anna Frantzen of Hillsboro Junior High School, with her photo "Frosty Morning." Three-dimensional art first place winner was Brianna Wagner, Festus High School, with her entry "Buck Book." Graphic design/Digital art first place winner was Alexis Jackson, De Soto Junior High School with her entry "Parrot Pop." The Twin City Area Optimist Club strives to "bring out the best in kids" with events such as the art contest that encourages Jefferson County youth to grow in confidence and self-esteem.

Patty Meyer, Art Contest Chair

Best of Show



Sailor Tucker
Age 15
Herculaneum High School

First Place



Brianna Wagner
Age 17
Buck Book
Festus High School



Kyla Cook
Age 16
Three Crosses
De Soto High School



Anna Frantzen
Age 12
Frosty Morning
Hillsboro Junior High School



Alexis Jackson
Age 13
Parrot Pop
De Soto Junior High School



Katie Strawn
Age 15
Penguin
De Soto High School

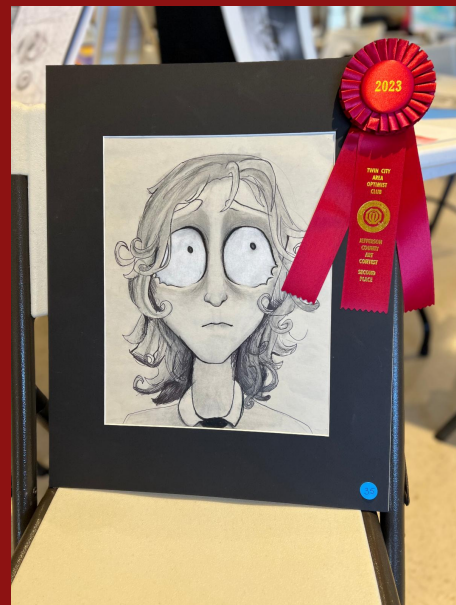


Julianna Dalaviras
Age 13
Hillsboro Junior High School

Second Place



Amelia Wiles
Age 12
Drops of Jupiter
Hillsboro Junior High School





Miabella Lamar
Age 17
De Soto High School

Laney Shoopman
Age 12
Danby Middle School
Jefferson R-7



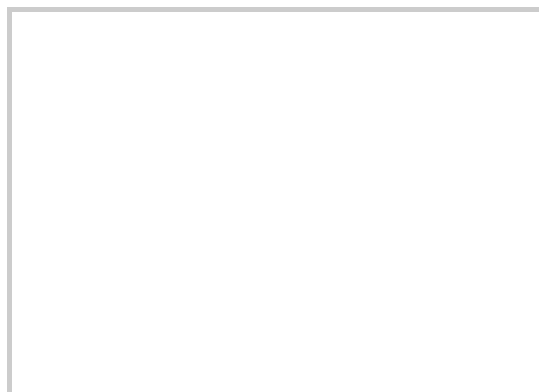
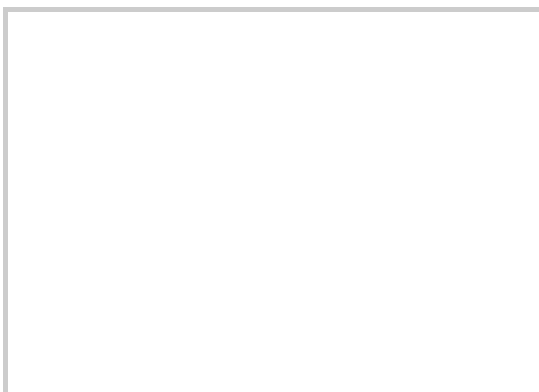
Ella Montgomery
age 15
Pink Lamb
Festus High School



Allyson Roberson
Age 17
Blob Fish
Festus High School



Third Place





Aubrey Croman
Age 17
Wybie Lovat
De Soto High School



Alice Dupree
Age 13
Hidden Trail
Hillsboro Junior High School



Sidney Steel
Age 13
Dare to Dream
Hillsboro Junior High School



Hayden Mouser
Age 14
Herculaneum High School



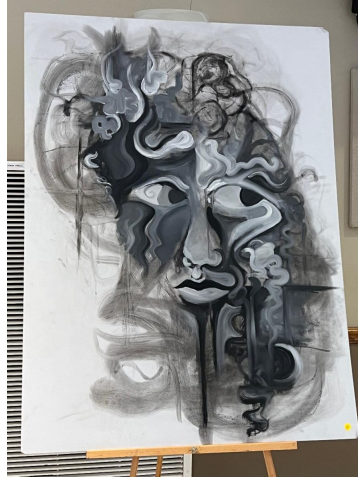
Jackson Gladden -
De Soto Junior High
"MP 4/4 Half & Half"



Ryli Meulen
Hillsboro Junior High School
"Palette and Brush"

Sparrow Buehme
Home School
"Early October"

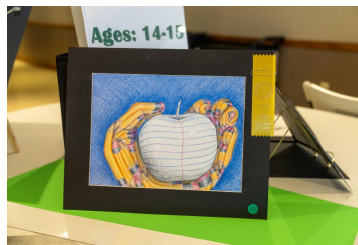
Avalon Buehme
Home School
"Boma Waterway"



Joshua Roth
Festus High School
"Schizophrenia"

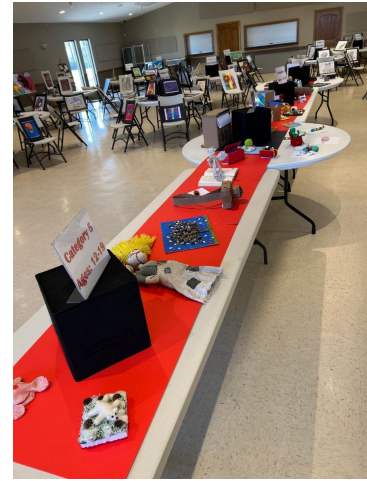


Unable to identify artist



Ella Montgomery
Festus High School
"Knowledge in Your Hands"

John Brown
De Soto High School
"Leaves"



Three Dimensional Art
Ages 12-19



De Soto Junior High School art
teacher---Ashley Daegling

Elley Miller
De Soto Junior High School
"Strawberry Snack"



Allyson Roberson
Festus High School



Mistress of Ceremony Mary
Kay Scott

"Siamese Twin Rag Doll"

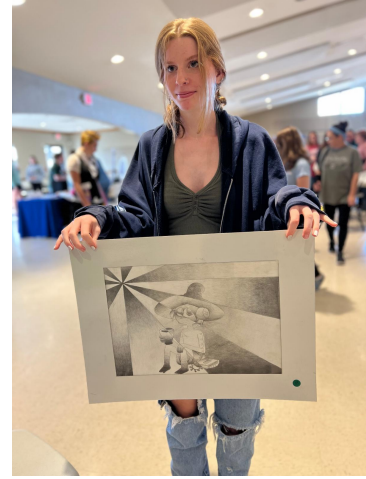


Peggy Scott, TCA Optimist Club President

Beth Watts, TCA Member



Mariah Riley
De Soto High School
"Hideaway House"



Mackenzie Donjon
Jefferson R-7



Brynn Huelzer
De Soto High School
Ducky Wucky



Unable to identify artist



Optimist International President-Elect
Jan Oord Graves with Cheryl Brenn,
Executive Director of Optimist
International



Art contestant Alexis Jackson from
De Soto Junior High School with
Optimist International President Tracy
Huxley.



Special thanks to Patty Meyer, Art Contest Chair for an amazing job organizing event.



Thank you to the Elk's for donating the space for art contest, the Festus Public Library for receiving artwork and providing room for sorting. We appreciate the art teachers, judges, and volunteers who put in the time to make this event successful.



Peggy Scott, TCA Optimist Club President
 Tracy Huxley, Optimist International President
 Jean Naeger, East MO District Governor-Elect



Phyllis Neff, East MO District Governor
 Tracy Huxley, Optimist International President



The Twin City Area Optimist Club receives annual sponsorships from businesses/ members of the community.

Students, Teachers, Family, and Friends Attend Art Contest







Some of the many volunteers who assisted with the Art Contest.

Thanks to the following members who assisted with sorting art prior to event: Barb Bates, Carroll Metzger, Jean Naeger, Elsie William, Pat Doenges, Janet Mace, Mickie Huskey, Nancy Doering, Peggy McCraith, Mary Kay Scott, and Patty Meyer.

Members who assisted with event: Carroll Metzger, Barb Schmidt, Ruth Ann Adams, Janet Mace, Mickie Huskey, Peggy McCraith, Sue Boyer, Patty Meyer, Beth Watts, Carolyn McKinney, Kathy Todd, Katie Huck, Beth Haberer, Phyllis Neff, Debbie Kettler, Debbie Hogenmiller, Peggy Scott, Mary Kay Scott, and Jean Naeger.

More Artwork





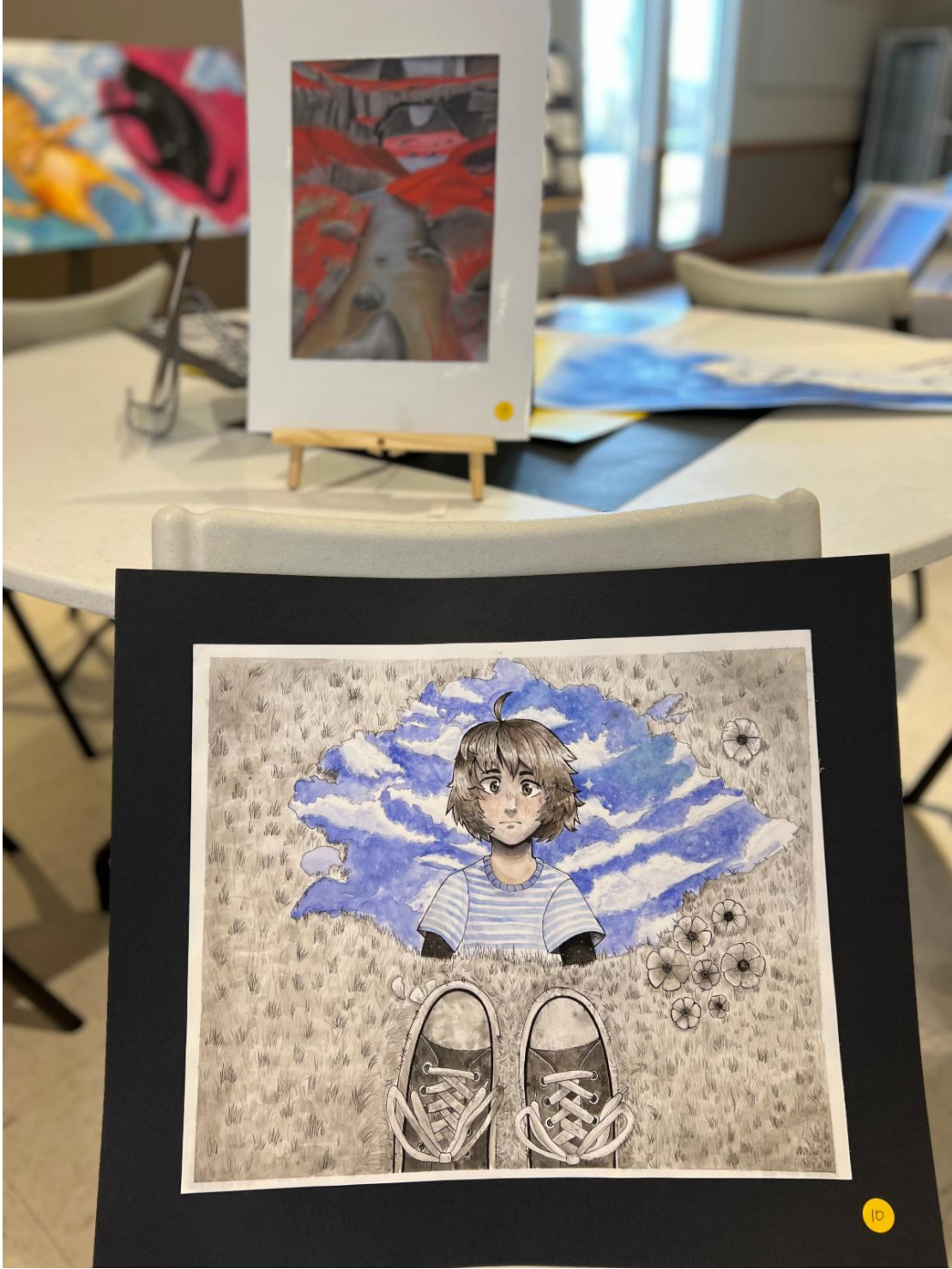
















Michael Boles, Optimist International Vice President - Middle America Region
Phyllis Neff, East Missouri Optimist District Governor
Peggy Scott, Twin City Area Optimist Club President
Tracy Huxley, Optimist International President
Cheryl Brenn, Optimist International Executive Director
Rod McKenderick, Optimist International Board Member



TCA Optimist Katie Huck

TCA Optimist Mary Kay Scott (Event Mistress of Ceremony)
Liz Christman, Optimist International Leadership Development Chair
Jean Naeger, East Missouri Optimist District Governor-Elect



Michael Boles, Optimist International Vice President - Middle America Region
Tracy Huxley, Optimist International President
Joe Hatfield, Jefferson County Optimist Club President
Liz Christman, Optimist International Leadership Development Chair

Fundraiser

Twin City Area Optimist member Karen Huskey made and donated the beautiful quilt on display at the art show. This is our latest fundraiser, see flyer below for raffle information. Thank you for your support.



Sponsors

Throughout the year the Twin City Area Optimist Club provides services to the youth and community of southern Jefferson County. The club is active in fundraising, but we could not support all our projects without the generosity of our sponsors. Below is just a sampling of the club's activities as shown in last year's annual tri-fold report.

If you would like to learn more about the TCA Optimist Club or become a 2024 sponsor, please contact Marketing Chair Jean Naeger at 314 495 2822.



DICTIONARY PROJECT

The Twin City Area Optimist Club distributes more than 1,000 dictionaries to third graders in southern Jefferson County. Students learn research skills as they use dictionaries to find correct spellings, definitions, and synonyms for words. Educators describe third grade as the time when a student transitions from learning to read to reading to learn.

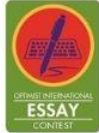
JUNIOR OPTIMIST CLUB

The Twin City Area Optimist Club is proud to sponsor a Junior Optimist International Club. Junior Optimist members, who are ages 11-18, make their communities better - one service project at a time.



SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

The Twin City Area Optimist Club offers scholarship opportunities through essay and oratorical contests. Visit our website www.twincityoptimist.org for details.



LET YOUR OPTIMISM SHINE THROUGH

- The Twin City Area Optimist Club continues to create new opportunities to fund projects for the youth of our community. Public events are back and we held successful Mouse Races in the fall, along with an online quilt raffle.
- Annual sales of KOEZE nuts and Oberle gift boxes contributed to our financial health.
- Members continue their generosity both financially and as volunteers.
- Annual sponsorships and grants allow the club to continue its service to youth.
- The club continued product drive-through events, benefiting Brenden's Friday Backpacks and the Aunt Rose Project.
- The club supports the Parents as Teachers program with school supplies.
- Members knitted and crocheted hats for infants and provided other essential needs to the Nurses for Newborns program.
- Five Head Start families received Thanksgiving and Easter food baskets.
- The club provided monetary donations to support other community projects, including the Homeless Youth Initiative, Mary's House of Hope and Jefferson County Toys and More, to name a few.



AUNT ROSE PROJECT

The Twin City Optimist Club has adopted the Aunt Rose Project. The need to provide sanitary products for teenage girls living in foster care has become a project dear to our hearts. It is hard to comprehend the insecurity period poverty can have on these girls.



Sponsorships

We continue to rely on the generosity of our community to support the Twin City Area Optimist Club in its service to our youth. Help us help the kids by sponsoring our club. Please send your check to the Twin City Area Optimist Club, P.O. Box 475, Festus, MO 63028. If you would like your donation of \$100 or more to be tax deductible as allowed by law, please contact Jean Naeger, TCA Marketing Chair, at 314-495-2822.

Platinum Sponsor: \$1,000 or more

- Greater visibility at our public events
- Includes photo and logo of you or business
- Sponsors announced on our public Facebook page
- Sponsors included on our website
- Sponsors are displayed at all public events

Gold Sponsor: \$500-\$999

- Includes photo and logo of you or business
- Sponsors announced on our public Facebook page
- Sponsors included on our website
- Sponsors are displayed at all public events

Silver Sponsor: \$250-\$499

- Includes business logo
- Sponsors announced on our public Facebook page
- Sponsors included on our website
- Sponsors are displayed at all public events

Bronze Sponsor: \$100-\$249

- Sponsors announced on our public Facebook page
- Sponsors included on our website
- Sponsors are displayed at all public events



Twin City Area Optimist Club
www.twincityoptimist.org
 Follow us on Facebook @twincityoptimistclub

Mission

By providing hope and positive vision, Optimists bring out the best in youth, our communities and ourselves.

How We Serve

The Twin City Area Optimist Club has numerous projects and programs serving southern Jefferson County. Here are just a few of the ways we serve our youth.



COATS FOR KIDS PROJECT

Our Coats for Kids project is the club's largest project and has been operating for more than 30 years. Each year, the need grows. During Fall 2022, more than 600 coats were distributed. The Project Committee works with local school counselors, Head Start staff and others to identify needs and fill requests.

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ART CONTEST

Twin City Area Optimist Club hosted its annual Art Contest which received more than 250 entries from about 200 local student artists from southern Jefferson County schools and home school students. Ava Elliott of De Soto High School won Best of Show for her entry, titled "Us."



HEAD START CHRISTMAS

After a two year absence, Twin City Area Optimists returned to Head Start facilities for Christmas parties. This year, 107 children received a variety of gifts, including warm clothes, mittens, hats, stuffed animals, toys and more.



ORATORICAL CONTEST

Olivia Drinen, a student at Senn-Thomas Middle School, won Oratorical Contest honors at the club and district levels. She received a total of \$3,000 in scholarships for her victories. "Participating in the contest was an incredible experience that taught me so many things," Olivia said. "I gained confidence and met lots of amazing people. It was truly a marvelous time!"



RESPECT FOR LAW

This project was created by Optimist International in appreciation and respect for our law enforcement community. Southern Jefferson County law enforcement agencies were honored for their service to the community.



THANK YOU TO OUR
PLATINUM PLUS SPONSOR
\$2000



THANK YOU TO OUR
PLATINUM SPONSORS
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Xi Theta Pi
Hillsboro Chapter
of Beta Sigma Phi

THANK YOU TO OUR
GOLD SPONSORS
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WEALTH ADVISOR

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**Carol and Harold
Hagan**



Jennifer Jones
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MARIE NEEDEDY - KOHLER

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Inc.



Bloomsdale
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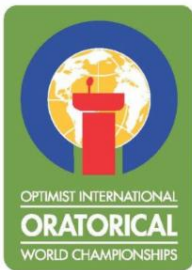
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Pogolino's Pizza Place - Festus
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Taytro's Bar & Bistro
The Midwest Shed
Thurman Law Firm
Vinyard Funeral Home
Waites Financial Services

Upcoming Scholarship Opportunities

The TCA Optimist Club will soon be contacting local schools to seek participants in essay and oratorical contests. Visit our website soon to download application forms. [Volunteering, Helping Children - Twin City Area Optimist Club \(twincityoptimist.org\)](https://www.twincityoptimist.org) This is an opportunity to earn scholarships while sharpening essay and oratorical skills.

OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL YOUTH CONTESTS 2023-2024



Topic
"How to Change the World
with Optimism"

ORATORICAL CONTEST

Beginning in 1928, the Oratorical Contest has become the longest-running program of Optimist International. The contest is designed for young people to gain experience in public speaking and provide them with an opportunity to compete for multiple college scholarships with a pre-assigned topic.

District Scholarships:
First Place: \$2,500 • Second Place: \$1,500 • Third Place: \$1,000
**with a chance to win up to \$22,500 at the
World Championships level**

ESSAY CONTEST

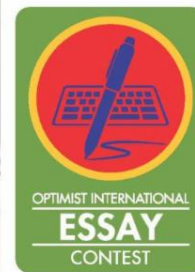
The Essay Contest is sponsored by Optimist International to give young people the opportunity to write about their own opinions regarding the world in which they live.

The approach can encompass a young person's personal experience, the experience of their country or a more historical perspective. In addition to developing skills for written expression, participants also have the opportunity to win a college scholarship!

One District Scholarship of \$2,500



Topic
"Optimism: How It Connects Us"



Topic
"How to Change the World
with Optimism"

COMMUNICATION CONTEST FOR THE DEAF & HARD OF HEARING

This contest offers an opportunity for students who are Deaf or Hard-of-Hearing to present their thoughts in the community, gaining skills, which can only come from signing or speaking to a large audience. Patterned after the Optimist Oratorical Contest, the contest offers youth the chance to compete in speech or sign language with the chance to win a college scholarship.

One District Scholarship of \$2,500

KIDS SPEAK OUT! SPEECH CONTEST

All young people can compete in the Optimist Oratorical Contest. The "Kids Speak Out" contest is a "pre-Oratorical" program that provides a more equitable competition for younger speakers.



Follow complete Official Rules posted on www.optimist.org



Board of
Directors
2023-2024

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Peggy Scott
314 420 0897

President Elect
Debbie
Hogenmiller

Past President
Carroll
Metzger

Secretary
Ruth Ann

Members meet every Thursday from Noon - 1 p.m. at Taytro's. Please RSVP by 8:00 a.m. on Monday by contacting Cathy Elliott.

The last Thursday of the month is an evening meeting held at Poppy's Parlor. Meeting starts at 6:00 p.m. If you would like to order food, please contact Phyllis Neff on Monday prior to meeting.

Our Club will continue looking at the sunny side of everything and being committed to bringing out the best in our area youth.

Adams

Secretary Elect
Kathy Todd

Treasurer
Janet Mace

Treasurer Elect
Becky Francis

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Members

2022-2024
Cathy Elliott
Katie Huck
Patty Meyer

2023-2025
Amy Baum
Beth Watts
Kirstie Zych



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Twin City Area Optimist Club | P.O. Box 475, Festus, MO 63028

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