

International Essay Contest



Applications accepted now through January 12, 2024

Official Topic: “**Optimism: How it Connects Us?**”

Focusing on the above-named topic, participants have an opportunity to write about their opinions regarding the world in which they live. The approach can encompass their personal experience, the experience of their country or a more historical perspective. In addition to developing skills for written expression, participants have the opportunity to win a college scholarship.

Scholarships from the Bay City Noon Optimists are awarded as follows: First Place=\$500, Second Place=\$250 and Third Place =\$100. The Club’s first place winner will advance to the District level contest to compete for \$2,500.00 scholarship. The District-level scholarship is funded by *the Optimists International Foundation*, and the *Jan Oord Endowment*.

Included in this mailing are copies of the entry form which includes the official rules (make additional copies as needed). ***Students who are under the age of 19 as of October 1, 2023 are eligible to participate. Students must not have graduated high school. This means someone about 17 years old, but graduated in June 2023, cannot participate even though they qualify by age.***

Please note: It is important that the contest rules are followed-most especially Section III. There have been instances where entries were disqualified by not following the format criteria. We want all of our participants to have every advantage to participate in and advance in the competition.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please feel free to contact Patti Krenz at 989-928-3385 or [email patticake1960@att.net](mailto:patticake1960@att.net)

Return Essays by January 12, 2024 to: Via Email [to patticake1960@att.net](mailto:to_patticake1960@att.net) or mail to:

Patti Krenz

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To learn more about the Bay City Noon Optimist Club check out:

Website: www.baycitynoonoptimist.org. Facebook: Bay City Noon Optimist