



Anyone interested can enter as long as they meet the age requirements. The contest is open to contestants under the age of 19 as of October 1st of the current Optimist International contest year (2023 October 1 – September 30) and who have not yet completed secondary school or its equivalent.

- Phase 1: Club Community Level
 - Prize amounts determined by Club (up to \$500)
 - Top two winners may move on to Zone Level
 - Club submit winner names by Feb 28, 2024
- Phase 2: Zone Winner Receives a Plaque
 - Zone submit winner name(s) by Mar 12, 2024
- Phase 3: EMO East Missouri Optimist District Level
 - Event Held May 4th, 2024 in Washington MO
 - 1st Place: \$2500 2nd Place: \$1500 3rd Place: \$1000
 - Top winner moves on to Regional Level held in St. Louis MO
- Phase 4: Regional – Mid America / Winners \$5000 per Region Winner
 - Each regional winner moves on to the International World Oratorical in St. Louis MO
- Phase 5: World Oratorical: 1st Place: \$15000 2nd Place: \$7500 3rd Place: \$5000

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.



PAST OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL ORATORICAL WINNERS



For more information please contact
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