



PRINT ON CLUB LETTERHEAD OR TYPE IN CLUB NAME

CONTACT CLUB  
CONTACT  
CONTACT'S NUMBER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
DATE

## **Local Optimist Club to Sponsor Essay Contest for Students**

**CITY, STATE/PROVINCE** – The Optimist Club of **CLUB NAME** is encouraging area students to contemplate the phrase “Can Society Function Without Respect?” as part of the Optimist International Essay Contest for the 2017-2018 school year.

The Optimist Club will judge the local students’ essays, based on the theme of “Can Society Function Without Respect?” and determine the top winners. Winners will receive **AWARDS** and the winning essays will be sent to the district level where college scholarships are available for top winners.

“Young students today have so many fresh ideas about the world and their future,” Club President **PRESIDENT'S NAME** said. “As Optimists, it is our goal to encourage them and do

what we can to bring out the best in each of them. This gives them a wonderful opportunity to tap into their creativity and pursue possible scholarships at the same time.”

The Optimist Club of **CLUB NAME** has been participating in the Optimist Essay Contest for **NUMBER** years and has been active in the community since **CHARTER YEAR**. Other programs and service projects that the Club is involved in include **CLUB PROJECTS**.

Students wishing to participate in the essay contest can find out more about the contest by contacting the club at **CONTACT PHONE NUMBER**.

Optimist International is one of the world’s largest service club organizations with 93,000 adult and youth members in 3,200 clubs in the United States, Canada, the Caribbean and Mexico and throughout the world. Carrying the Mission Statement “By providing hope and positive vision, Optimists bring out the best in youth, our communities and ourselves,” Optimists conduct positive service projects that reach more than six million young people each year. To learn more about Optimist International, please call (314) 371-6000 or visit the organization’s website at [www.optimist.org](http://www.optimist.org).

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