



4494 LINDELL BLVD. • ST. LOUIS, MO 63108  
314.371.6000 • FAX: 314.371.6006

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
June 2010

CONTACT: Krista Grueninger,  
Director of Communications  
(800) 500-8130, ext. 228  
communications@optimist.org

**Optimist International to Bring Positive Spirit to Denver Area This July**  
*More than a Thousand Volunteers to Attend Annual Convention in Downtown Denver*

ST. LOUIS, Mo. – Denver may feel a burst of positive energy this summer as more than a thousand volunteers of Optimist International bring their optimistic outlook and their determination to help children to the area for their international convention July 8 through 10.

Optimist International is the world's largest service organization dedicated to bringing out the best in kids, and the Optimist volunteers attending the convention will settle into the Sheraton Denver Downtown Hotel for a week of leadership training, business meetings and camaraderie. Many will kick off the week together July 6 at an "Optimist Day at Coors Field," cheering on the Colorado Rockies, and then they'll spend a couple of days sightseeing with friends and family before the convention officially gets under way on July 8. Optimist International President Mark Shriver IV will be in attendance along with a number of other Optimist dignitaries, and author and entrepreneur Scott Ginsberg, also known as "The Nametag Guy," will present the keynote speech on the afternoon of July 10.

Junior Optimist Octagon International, the youth component of Optimist International, has also selected the area for its annual convention. About two hundred youth in middle school, junior high and high school plan to attend their own leadership training and team-building event July 5-7 at the Sheraton. While in Denver, JOOI members will work on a service project for Summer Scholars, bringing backpacks of school supplies to children in Summer Scholars' literacy and recreation programs and spending time reading to the young students.

Optimist International has more than 103,000 adult and youth members in 3,475 clubs in the United States, Canada, the Caribbean and Mexico and throughout the world. Colorado boasts 61 Optimist Clubs

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**Optimist International brings annual convention to Denver this July, add one**

and nearly 1,800 volunteers, plus youth involved in a dozen clubs of Junior Optimist Octagon International. Carrying the motto “Bringing Out the Best in Kids,” Optimists conduct positive service projects that reach more than 6 million young people each year.

To learn more about Optimist International, please visit [www.optimist.org](http://www.optimist.org) or contact Krista Grueninger, director of communications, at (800) 500-8130, ext. 228, or [communications@optimist.org](mailto:communications@optimist.org).

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