



PRINT ON DISTRICT LETTERHEAD OR TYPE IN DISTRICT NAME

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DATE

Two Students Receive Top Honors in Optimist District's Oratorical Contest

CITY, STATE/PROVINCE – Two students were recently honored in the **DISTRICT NAME** Optimist oratorical contest. **STUDENT NAME**, a **YEAR IN SCHOOL** at **SCHOOL**, was the winner in the girls' category while **STUDENT NAME**, a **YEAR IN SCHOOL** at **SCHOOL**, took first place in the boys' division. The contest was based on a theme of "Where are My Roots of Optimism?" As winners of the contest, the students will each receive a \$2,500 scholarship.

STUDENT'S LAST NAME was awarded **AWARD** for the honor. In addition, **STUDENT'S LAST NAME** will be sent to the zone level where **HE/SHE** will compete against winners from other Optimist Clubs in the area. The winner of the zone competition will be sent to the District level with the chance to win a scholarship, and then possibly on the Optimist International Regional/World Championship for a chance to win an additional \$5,000 or up to another \$15,000 scholarship.

"The students did a wonderful job presenting their speeches about the questions posed to them," District Oratorical **CHAIR'S NAME** said. "The Optimists who have heard them speak have no doubt that these students have a bright future ahead of them."

The **DISTRICT NAME** has been participating in the Optimist Oratorical Contest for **NUMBER** years.

The winner of the **DISTRICT NAME** competition will be sent to the Optimist International Regional level at Saint Louis University in St. Louis, Missouri, to compete in the Optimist International Regional/World Championship for a chance to win an additional \$5,000 or up to \$15,000 scholarship.

Optimist International is one of the world's largest service club organizations with over 80,000 adult and youth members in almost 3,000 clubs in the United States, Canada, the Caribbean and Mexico and throughout the world. The Optimist Oratorical Contest is one of the organization's most popular programs, with more than 2,000 clubs participating annually. Carrying the motto "Bringing Out the Best in Youth, in our Communities, and in 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.

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