GREETINGS!

My name is Javanni Waugh from Kingston, Jamaica and I’m beyond humbled to serve YOU as International President for the 2014-2015 Optimist Year. A bit more about myself? I get emotional about food, especially when pizza is around, sometimes I’ll procrastinate on homework and I love meeting new people. To be honest, I’m a normal teen wanting to make a difference and I’ve been able to achieve that thanks to JOOI. I’ve been in JOOI for almost 5 years and my life hasn’t been the same since I joined. Having served as a 2012-2013 Lieutenant Governor of the Caribbean District and 2013-2014 International Board of Director, JOOI has given me so much that I want to return the benefits I have gained back to the members.

Now is a key time for JOOI as we explore new horizons and limitless opportunities and I am thrilled to lead such dedicated members, like you. Your elected International Board of Directors have hit the ground running by implementing policies and projects that will benefit all of JOOI, ranging from the charming Alpha Club Member, to the eager and helpful Junior Optimist, and to the always willing to take on a challenge Octagon Club Member.

Communication is very important to me. I’m a strong proponent of effective communication and over my years in JOOI, I’ve learned that communication works both ways. I’d love to like your Club’s Facebook page, join your Club’s Facebook group, as well as follow your Club’s Twitter and Instagram! Also, whenever you post about a project, a Club meeting, random JOOI memories or anything related to JOOI, be sure to use our official hashtag: #JOOI. Use #JOOI to meet new Members, see what’s going on worldwide and attract more persons to your Club, District and our wider International family.

ONE MORE THING: FEEL FREE TO CONTACT ME!

WANT TO ALWAYS BE IN THE KNOW?

Like JOOI’s Facebook page at fb.com/jooiclubs! The Board of Directors has created the page especially for our Members for the latest information and updates. Finally, I invite everyone to read the “Torch”, as I have created several important initiatives. They are my goals and hopes, yet I recognize them as OUR goals and hopes as we share the vision of putting JOOI on the path to “Soaring to New Heights”.

Yours in Optimism,
The Loud and Proud,
Javanni Waugh
2014-2015 JOOI International President
‘Soaring to New Heights’
Past President Stéphanie Thériault has a desire for a top rate promotional publication for JOOI. The publication would be a 20 page mini-book inspiring all to become a part of our great organization. A significant donation from the JOOI Board from their Legacy Fund will help make this happen.

The JOOI Board is searching for about 10 impactful JOOI stories to be included in the publication. The stories could include an amazing event that your JOOI Club has taken on over the years, the life story of one of your Members that was impacted greatly from JOOI or leadership learned at the JOOI level that catapulted a Member into great things. The collection of stories will be turned into a well-rounded, powerful little book, which will stay in strategic locations for many years to come.

Keep in mind that we'll need to take professional photographs to be included with the stories. Your help as we complete this publication is greatly appreciated.

Please forward any ideas to the JOOI Department at youthclubs@optimist.org, and don’t hesitate to contact me by phone at 248-736-8833 or email at broseelectric@msn.com.

Thank you,
Don Brose
JOOI Committee Chair
2013-2014

Hunter Friedland, President of the Octagon Club Miami, winner of the Ruby Blair Award 2013-2014 with President, Doris Acosta, of North Bay Village Optimist Club on September 12th, 2014. Each year, the Ruby Blair Award recognizes one outstanding Member of the JOOI organization. The award is named after a former staff Member of Optimist International, who helped organize the international administration of JOOI. Through Ruby Blair’s efforts, JOOI Club Members now have their own newsletter, awards, training, materials and a convention.
Effective Immediately

Go to www.optimistleaders.org and click on "Login" in the right sidebar.

On the next screen, select the year of your administration (2014-2015).

Select your office from the drop-down menu.

The User ID is

for Club offices your five-digit Club number. (i.e. A1234)

for District and International offices your last name and first initial

(i.e. KellerA)

Passwords have been assigned to each officer/advisor individually.

You may retrieve yours using your personal email address through the instant password recovery function on the login page of optimistleaders.org.

" You may change your password any time using the "Change Password" link on the right side of the page. "

Click the "Login" button.

Note: Your password retrieval email address must match the information on your club roster in the Optimist International database.

Hello Fello Optimists!

My name is Logan Clemente and I am honored to serve as a 2014-2015 JOOI International Director. I am from Lake Mary, Florida and I am in my fifth year as a JOOI Member. I am a Member of the Lyman High School Octagon Club and the current Governor for the North Florida District. JOOI has impacted my life greatly and I know it will impact yours as well. Whether it is by teaching you the importance of service in the community or helping you build confidence in yourself, JOOI will change your life for the better. I hope everyone en-JOOIs the upcoming fun-filled year. I can’t wait to work with all the JOOI Members and meet everyone at the convention in New Orleans, Louisiana!
Dear JOOI Members,

My name is Stéphanie Thériault and I am 18 years old. I live in Saint-Ambroise, a small town in Quebec, Canada. I have been a JOOI Member since 2009. I had the honor to serve as 2013-2014 JOOI President and the year was a truly life changing experience. My hobbies include sports and spending time with family and friends. I am currently taking social sciences at CEGEP, a pre-university college in Quebec, and plan on attending law school next year. I am looking forward to another fun-filled JOOI year. Our amazing JOOI Board of Directors are going to lead our JOOI family to reach new heights and build for the future. If you have questions about JOOI, please do not hesitate to contact me. Thank you for your involvement in JOOI and I will see you in July in New Orleans for the 2015 JOOI International Convention.

STÉPHANIE THÉRIAULT

Hey JOOI Buddy’s!

My name is Jaden McFadgion and I am one of your 2014-2015 JOOI International Board of Directors. I am from Dayton, Ohio. JOOI has been a big part of my life since 2007. I joined a JOOI Club because I was very shy and thought the Club was a perfect opportunity to break me out of my shell, which it did. Being involved in JOOI has made me the person I am today. In my previous Club, I held every position, except for Treasurer. I was also Ohio District Secretary. I am currently the Lt. Governor for the Ohio JOOI District. JOOI is a phenomenal organization that I am glad to be a part of it. You will meet many new people that you will love and become friends for a lifetime. JOOI is anything but a “boring club”. You will love everything you do and everyone you meet in the JOOI organization. I hope to see you guys in New Orleans for the 2015 International JOOI Convention.

JADEN MCFADGION

YOUTH CODE

I PROMISE TO-

Honor my parents and those whom experience has made wise.
Respect the beliefs of others.
Value all my friendships and ensure they are true.
Treasure and nurture my mind and body.
Be diligent and work at each task according to its importance.
Strive to be courteous at all times and truthful with everyone I meet.
Manage my money wisely and control materialism.
Respect all living things and help maintain the balance of life.
Work to become independent, always think for myself,
Set high goals in life and dedicate myself to the service of others.
The 2015 JOOI Convention will be held in New Orleans, Louisiana on July 6-8. Hotel reservations can be made at the Hilton Riverside, New Orleans, LA. The sleeping room rates are $109 per night (plus taxes & fees-$128.08 inclusive) for up to two people and $125 (plus taxes & fees - $146.44 inclusive) for three-four people in a room. To book your reservation or for more information on room types and upgrades available, please call (800) 445-8667 or (504) 584-3959. When calling, remember to mention the dates and group name "Junior Optimist Octagon International." As long as there are sleeping rooms available, the deadline to make your reservation is June 17, 2015.

JOOI Club Members from United States, Canada, Anguilla and Jamaica met in sunny San Diego, California for the 2014 International JOOI Convention. Everyone had a wonderful time with group activities, workshops, guest speakers, campaigns and elections for their new International Board of Directors. JOOI Members also explored Coronado Beach, where they participated in a Beach Clean-Up service project. The convention ended with the President’s Banquet, followed by the President’s Dance on Tuesday evening.
Hello Everyone!

My name is Kyra Woodley and I’m from Southfield, Michigan. I am privileged to serve you this year as your Junior Optimist International Board of Director. I have been a JOOI Member for nearly four years and it has truly been a blessing. I have always been involved in leadership because my sister set that example for me and I have always loved volunteering, but I had never experienced a global community who want to change the world for the better until I became a JOOI Member. When I read the Optimist creed for the first time, I knew JOOI was best place for me. I hope you, too, realize how great the JOOI organization is! JOOI has positively impacted my life though experiences, people, and places that I will forever be grateful for.

KYRA WOODLEY

Bonjour!

My name is Déryck Essak-Brunelle and I am proud to serve as an International Director on this year’s International Board of Directors. I am from the West District of Québec and my Club is the Smarties of Gatineau. I’m also bilingual in French and English! I’ve been in JOOI since 2011, the same year I served as Club President. The following year I served as Treasurer of my JOOI District, gaining enough experience before being elected District Governor in 2013.

I have the extraordinary benefit of planning many projects for this year with the International Board, in addition to serving on the Membership Development & Retention International Committee. I’m particularly excited about is our International JOOI Convention in New Orleans in July 2015. I would be glad to meet all of you there! I’ve been to a couple of JOOI Conventions myself and they’ve changed my entire perspective on life and inspired me to spread my involvement in JOOI. Don’t allow yourself to miss out on the fun!

For this Optimist Year, I hope you’ll have fun and many prosperous happenings in your Clubs and District. Keep on smiling, folks! Stay Optimistic!

DÉRYCK ESSAK-BRUNELLE
IT’S AS EASY AS 1-2-3!

PUBLICIZING YOUR JOOI CLUB

1. **HOST AN ARRAY OF EXCITING EVENTS TO DRAW ATTENTION TO YOUR CLUB.**

2. **USE THE MARKETING SECTION ON THE JOOI WEBSITE WHEN PLANNING ANY EVENT.**
   The JOOI website provides tips, high quality JOOI graphics and already-recorded examples of JOOI PSAs to air on local stations, as well as your school intercom!

3. **CREATE SOCIAL MEDIA ACCOUNTS LIKE FACEBOOK AND TWITTER AND USE HASHTAGS (#) FOR SPECIAL EVENTS**
   (Ex: #JOOIBanquet2015 for your annual banquet) to reach more people than ever before!

When you do any kind of recruiting activities, you have to make it fun! Show all the advantages that being a JOOI Member can bring. Find people in your school by doing a speech on JOOI Clubs in a class and then invite everyone to an awesome activity where you can tell your potential Members about the great opportunities that being a JOOI Member can bring to them. Tell everyone about your own experience and the opportunities they will have as a Member to develop their own potential and leadership while helping kids.

**CONTACT THE JOOI DEPARTMENT AT 800.500.8130 OR YOUTHCLUBS@OPTIMIST.ORG FOR ANY QUESTIONS.**

THE OPTIMIST CREED

**PROMISE YOURSELF—**

To be so strong that nothing can disturb your peace of mind.
To talk health, happiness and prosperity to every person you meet.
To make all your friends feel that there is something in them.
To look at the sunny side of everything and make your optimism come true.
To think only of the best, to work only for the best, and to expect only the best.
To be just as enthusiastic about the success of others as you are about your own.
To forget the mistakes of the past and press on to the greater achievements of the future.
To wear a cheerful countenance at all times and give every living creature you meet a smile.
To give so much time to the improvement of yourself that you have no time to criticize others.
To be too large for worry, too noble for anger, too strong for fear, and too happy to permit the presence of trouble.
At the JOOI Board of Directors Meeting in September, the JOOI Board of Directors agreed on several well-received goals and plans of action to develop achievable initiatives for the upcoming year. Below are summaries of these proposals:

1. **THE CREATION OF A “JOOI LEGACY ACTION GRANT”**
   Clubs who initiate new and deserving projects may apply for grants from $50-$100 to help defray expenses. The JOOI Board of Directors has appropriated up to $1500 to support these grants from the JOOI Legacy fund (a fund that the JOOI Board raises money for each year). Details of this program will be posted on the JOOI website.

2. **THE CREATION OF INTERNATIONAL JOOI COMMITTEES**
   Committees will be occupied by interested and experienced JOOI members. Members will be tasked with creating resources and options that will steer JOOI to new heights.

3. **THE INTRODUCTION OF JOOI GLOBAL PARTNERS**
   JOOI Global Partners are organizations with programs tailored towards youth. By partnering with the organizations, JOOI Members can spread awareness about illnesses and diseases of less privileged children around the world. These organizations will fit in nicely with our already popular international programs, like JOOI of Reading, Souper Bowl of Caring, Childhood Cancer Campaign, and Kaboom Play Day.

4. **THE EXPANSION OF THE PGI PROGRAM**
   PGI, Personal Growth and Involvement, was developed for Members to track their personal development between the first and last day as a JOOI Member. The PGI levels range from Bronze, Silver, and Gold for Alpha, Junior Optimist, and Octagon Clubs for everyone to participate. PGI will be amended to include the above initiatives.

   **THE INITIATIVES WILL INCLUDE “SOARING TO NEW HEIGHTS.”**