



## Facts about Optimist International

### Optimist International

Headquarters: St. Louis  
Founded: 1919

Number of Optimist Clubs: 2,500  
Number of Members: 90,000

### Junior Optimist International

Youth Clubs Organization  
Founded: 1988

Number of Youth Clubs: 575  
Number of Members: 15,650

### Major Service Programs

- Optimist International Junior Golf Program: Optimist International Junior Golf Championships July 16-31, 2019 at Doral Resort & Spa in Miami, Florida;
- Tournament of Champions: November 3-4, 2018 at ChampionsGate Golf Club in Orlando, Florida
- Childhood Cancer Campaign: The world's premier childhood cancer eradication program
- World Oratorical Championship: International-level of the Oratorical Program, chance to win \$22,500 scholarship
- District and Club level scholarship contests including the Oratorical, Essay and Communication Contest for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing
- Youth Safety: Teaching and practicing the safe use of bicycles, school buses and skates
- Youth Appreciation: Recognizes youth for a variety of accomplishments in school, extracurricular activities and the community
- Respect for Law/Promotion of Non-Violence

### Scope of Service

Optimists conduct 65,000 service projects each year, serving six million young people. Optimists also spend \$78 million on their communities annually.

### Officers (year ending September 30, 2019)

President: Rebecca Butler Mona, West Des Moines, Iowa  
President-Elect: Adrian Elcock, Bridgeton, Barbados

### History

First Optimist Club: Optimist Club of Buffalo, New York, 1911  
First International Convention: Louisville, Kentucky, June 1919  
The Optimist Creed authored by Christian D. Larson in 1912, adopted by Optimist International in 1922

### International Conventions

June 30 - July 3 – Louisville, Kentucky