**Optimist International Oratorical Contest**

Topic for the 2019-20 school year is: **“Just iMagine a World without Boundaries”**

"iMagine" represents the Optimist theme for 2019-2020 and it is written as shown for branding purposes. It does not replace the linguistic interpretation, intent, or spellings of the word “imagine or Imagine". As such, contestants are free to use the correct spelling for any contest or communications without penalty.

**Who:** Youth under the age of 19 as of October 1, 2019 (and is not enrolled as a degree seeking student of a post-secondary institution) in the United States, Canada or the Caribbean. There is no minimum age.

**How-To-Enter:** Interested students need to complete an official Oratorical Application, which is available online from the Club website and submit a written copy of their speech on the pre-assigned topic to The Clarkston Area Optimist Club, P.O. Box 891, Clarkston, MI 48347.

**Deadline for entries is: Friday, March 13, 2020**

This year, there will be two Oratorical Contests. One for High School Students and a separate contest for Junior High Students.

For an official Application, Dates, Times and Location visit the Clarkston Optimist Club website at: www.clarkstonoptimists.org then click on the Project & Events tab.

**Other Details for the Winner**

The winner of the Clarkston Area Optimist Club oratorical contests will be invited to attend the Regional Contest and give their speech. The winner of the Regional Contests will be invited to give their speech in May 2020, at the State Optimist Conference.

The Optimist Oratorical Contest gives youngsters the chance to speak at the World Optimist level. More than $150,000 in college scholarships funded by the Optimist International Foundations is awarded annually from this program.

First conducted in 1928, this is the second most popular Optimist International Program. Nearly 2,000 clubs participate in this program each year. The winners at the Club level receive medallions and Regional Winners receive a plaque. State winners have the opportunity to provide a first place scholarship of $2,500, a second place scholarship of $1,500, and a third place scholarship of $1,000.

For more information, email the Clarkston Area Optimist Club at: info@clarkstonoptimists.org

Or contact Don Brose, at 248-736-8833