



McCook Optimist Club

Matt Tiller President
Ron Smith, Mark Graff Treasurer

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How can you help make this project a success?

Each Educator that chooses to participate in the Optimist Essay Contest is asked to:

Step 1

Display the enclosed poster and entry/rules sheet in your classroom
Make your students aware of the contest, either through a classroom assignment, mentioning the project during class or by directly encouraging prospective essayists to submit an entry.

Step 2

Grade (judge) the essays that you receive based upon the criteria set forth by the enclosed rules and judging guidelines.

Step 3

Submit the top 3 essays that you receive (according to the judging criteria), along with completed entry forms to: Essay Contest Chairperson Trevor Premer 345-5656(day), or 345-7419(evening) or revp@gpcom.net. **BEFORE** the deadline of February 16, 2009. Do not include any evaluations of your own with your students submissions (judging results, grade score, etc).

A panel of 3 judges will read, evaluate and score the submitted essays following the Feb. 16, 2009 deadline. The rules established by Optimist International do not allow us to reveal any of the judges' scores after evaluations have been made.

Your schools and educators will be informed of local winning essays immediately after judging is completed, and a press release/news article (long with possible award photos) will be submitted to local media outlets.

****Note**** The essay that is judged to be the overall winner of our local contest (one winner from all entries received regardless of age) will be submitted to the district contest to compete for a \$650 college scholarship. In order for submission to the district contest, the author's birth certificate must be included with the submission. The McCook Optimist Club will contact the educator and author to obtain a copy of their birth certificate.

Thank You! For your participation.

Respectfully,

The McCook Optimist Club

Trevor D. Premer
Essay Contest Chair

