OPTIMIST CLUB OF NEW ULM PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

Highlighting "The Optimist Creed"

Photographers for the contest should be students in one of two age groups: Entering Grades 1-6, or Entering Grades 7-12. Students are asked to submit photos that illustrate/exemplify one of the ten verses/ lines of "The Optimist Creed".

GUIDELINES AND RULES:

1. The contest will be held at the Club level, and is sponsored by the Optimist Club of New Ulm. Entrants must be from the New Ulm, MN area (either living or attending school within 25 miles of New Ulm).
2. Photographers must be in Grades 1 through 12 (based on 2026-2027 school year). Winners will be chosen in two age divisions: Grades 1-6 and Grades 7-12.
3. An entry form (see attached) must be completed for each entry and attached to the back of the entry, and signed by the photographer and parent(s) or guardian(s).
4. Photos may be any of these sizes: 4" x 6", 5" x 7", or 8" x 10", black and white or color photo. **NO photo-shopping or filter** enhancements should be used, other than basic cropping of the photo. Do not fold photos or mats. Be sure to protect the photo by placing it between two pieces of thin cardboard and mark all mailed envelopes "DO NOT BEND"
5. Photos should be matted, with "The Optimist Creed" verse/line stated clearly on the front of the mat frame, so judges will know what the photo is to exemplify. No identifying information should be included within the photograph, nor on the mat. The photographer's name and other identifying information, including the entry form, must be attached to the back of the photo entry.
6. To increase the number of entered photos, each student photographer may submit more than one photo, up to two. However, **no contestant may be awarded prizes for more than one photo**.
7. Deadline to submit photos is **5:00pm on Sunday, October 4, 2026.** Photos must be sent via mail or delivered to:

   Liz Altmann - Photo Contest Chair
   Optimist Club of New Ulm
   815 11th North Street
   New Ulm, MN 56073

8. Blind judging will be by members of the Optimist Club of New Ulm. There will be a monetary award for the top 5 winners in each age category: $75 first place, $50 second place, $40 third place, $30 fourth place, and $25 fifth place. A People's Choice award from all entries will receive a cash prize of $50. Entries will be displayed at the New Ulm Public Library Children's Room after contest and during the People's Choice voting.

Any questions should be directed to Liz Altmann at: nuoptimist@gmail.com or laltmann1973@gmail.com

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.

Optimist INTERNATIONAL

For more information about Optimist International Programs, please visit optimist.org, e-mail programs@optimist.org or call us at 800-500-8130

For more information about the Optimist Club of New Ulm, please visit newulmoptimistclub.org or our Facebook pages at facebook.com/OptimistNU or facebook.com/NUYouthPOWER or by e-mail at nuoptimist@gmail.com

OPTIMIST PHOTO CONTEST ENTRY FORM

Highlighting “The Optimist Creed”

NAME_____ Grade _____

ADDRESS_____

CITY/STATE/ZIP CODE_____

SCHOOL: _____

PARENT’S PHONE: _____

PARENT’S EMAIL: _____

OPTIMIST CLUB: Optimist Club of New Ulm CLUB #: 35204

Line/Verse of the Optimist Creed that photo will exemplify: _____

_____

I certify that I took the picture myself. _____

(Student’s Signature)

You have permission to print the picture, information, and photo of my child.

_____

(Parent’s Signature)

Due date for photo entries: 5:00pm Sunday, October 4, 2026

Place above application on the back of each photo submitted (max of three). Photos should be mounted in a frame mat. Line of creed needs to be on the front of the mat frame. Photos can be 4” X 6”, 5” X 7”, or 8” X 10”.
NO PHOTOSHOPPING OF PHOTOS, ONLY CROPPING IS ALLOWED.

Submit your photo entries and form to: Liz Altmann, Photo Contest Chair

Via mail or deliver to: 815 11th North Street, New Ulm, MN 56073

***Be sure to mark mailed entries "DO NOT BEND"