



Club # 09-208

[f Optimist Club of West Bend](#)

**Optimist**  
INTERNATIONAL

Optimist Club of West Bend

P.O. Box 1076, West Bend, WI 53095



SWIS District (#09)

[OptimistClubofWestBend@gmail.com](mailto:OptimistClubofWestBend@gmail.com)

# 2026 Optimist Club Essay Contest

**Topic: How My Acts of Service Help Me understand What My Community Means to Me.**

**Who:** Any student under the age of 19 as of 10/1/2025 residing in the West Bend School District boundaries. *There is no minimum age to participate.*

**What:** A 700-800 word essay on the theme. See essay application and checklist for more details.

**When:** Essays may be submitted from 1/5/2026-2/5/2026

**Why:** The Club level first place winner will receive \$150 and a medallion. The second place winner will receive \$100 and a medallion. Winners will also be invited to an Optimist Club Luncheon. All other participants will receive a certificate. The first place essay will advance to the district competition and be eligible to win a plaque and \$2,500!

**What now?:** Write your essay, follow the checklist, and complete the application form found on the Optimist Club of West Bend website, the QR code below, or by mailing [optimistclubofwestbend@gmail.com](mailto:optimistclubofwestbend@gmail.com) to request one. Submit essay by emailing [optimistclubofwestbend@gmail.com](mailto:optimistclubofwestbend@gmail.com), mailing to: Optimist Club of West Bend, P.O. Box 1076, West Bend, WI 53095 or dropping off at Silverbrook Intermediate School. *Entries must be postmarked or delivered by February 5th.* Winners will be contacted and announced in the *Daily News* and West Bend Optimist Club Facebook page on February 28th.

**Questions?:** Contact contest chair, Lance Roell by emailing [optimistclubofwestbend@gmail.com](mailto:optimistclubofwestbend@gmail.com) or by calling 262-306-8789.



**Submit your essay by February 5, 2026!**