



Optimist INTERNATIONAL

Optimist Club of West Bend



Club # 09-208

[f Optimist Club of West Bend](#)

P.O Box 1076, West Bend, WI 53095

<http://www.optimistclubofwestbend.org/>

SWIS District (#09)

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Visual Arts Competition 2026

Entry Deadline January 23, 2026

Competition Rules:

1. Artists must be eleven years old or younger as of October 1, 2025.
2. There are two separate categories of artwork: **Paintings or Drawings**.
3. The artists may submit only one piece of artwork in each category.
4. The artwork is to reflect the artist's concept of: **"Be Bold, Be the Change."**
5. Artwork must be created on "Landscape Format" (11 inches wide by 8.5 inches high) paper. You may choose to include a piece of colored cardstock or mat behind the artwork, but it is not required. If you do choose to use a mat, please ensure that it is no larger than 9.5 x 12 inches.



Visual Arts Competition 2026

Competition Rules (continued):

6. The deadline to submit all artwork is January 23, 2026.
7. Artwork is to be submitted by delivering it to the Circulation/Information Desk at the West Bend Community Memorial Library, 630 Poplar Street, West Bend, WI 53095 (ATTN: Terika Koch)
8. So each entry is judged solely on the quality of the artwork, no names are to be on the front of the artwork. The artist's name and any identifiers may not appear on the front of the artwork, but must be included on the official Optimist Visual Arts Competition Entry Form.
9. The official Entry Form must be attached to the back of each entry. It is available for download at: <https://www.optimistclubofwestbend.org/contests.html>.
10. The artwork will then be put on public display at the West Bend Community Memorial Library between February 2-13, 2026, where it will be judged by the public based on its visual quality and its relationship to the theme: "Be Bold, Be The Change." Please come vote during these two weeks!
11. First (\$25), second (\$15), and third (\$10) place winners in each category as judged by the public will receive a monetary award and certificate from the Optimist Club of West Bend.
12. The two first place winners (1st place paintings & 1st place drawings) will then be submitted by the Optimist Club to the Optimist International Visual Arts Competition. The project for the Visual Arts Competition shall be the creation of a set of twelve note cards and envelopes. At the International level, there is a monetary award for 13 OI winners: one for the image selected to go on the cover and one image selected for each notecard.
13. Entrants who do not win a prize are welcome to pick up their art between March 2-20. Art that is not picked up will be disposed of after March 20.

•**Submit paintings and drawings by January 23, 2026**

•**Submit with an attached Entry Form** Download Entry Form from:

<https://www.optimistclubofwestbend.org/contests.html>

•**Submit all paintings and drawings by delivering to the:**

Circulation/Information Desk (ATTN: Terika Koch)

West Bend Community Memorial Library,

630 Poplar Street, West Bend, WI 53095

***"Be Bold, Be the Change"** means being brave enough to make the world a better place!*

*It's about standing up for what's right, trying new ideas, and not being afraid to be different – even when it's hard. You can show **boldness** by using bright colors, strong shapes, or creative ideas in your art. You can show **change** by drawing how people, nature, or even the world could look if everyone was kinder, more helpful, or more caring.*

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