



Club # 09-208

[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

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 to request one. Submit essay by emailing 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 or by calling 262-306-8789.



Submit your essay by February 5, 2026!