



Margaret Barclay lived a life dedicated to helping others, particularly children. She spent 40 years in public education, the last 27 in the Centerville Schools, serving as a teacher, a university student teaching coordinator, Normandy Elementary Principal, and retiring as Principal at Magsig Middle School in 2000. The Optimist Oratorical Contest is named in her memory due to her selfless dedication and commitment to the youth of our community. Margaret's Noon Optimist accomplishments include being the second female President; the second member to become an International Vice President; CNO Co-Optimist of the Year; Lieutenant Governor; Ohio District Governor Honored; and the CNO Treasurer for many years. She was also an integral part of creating new Alpha and Junior Optimist Clubs in our schools, and an active member in both the CNO and Springboro Optimist Clubs. Margaret valued this community as well, serving as an Elder at Southminster Presbyterian Church, and a Charter Member of the Centerville Education Foundation.



MARGARET BARCLAY MEMORIAL

Optimist Oratorical Contest

2023 TOPIC

**Discovering the Optimism
within Me**

Noon Optimist Club of Centerville
937-221-6720

Every Tuesday at Noon
www.centervillenoonoptimist.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 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 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.



CONTEST RULES

- ☐ Prepare a 4 to 5 minute speech on the selected topic for the year, **“Discovering the Optimism in Me”**.
- ☐ Contestants must be under the age of 19 as of October 1, 2022 and not enrolled as a degree seeking student of a post-secondary institution.
- ☐ To compete at any of the club contests listed below, the student must live in Centerville or Washington Township or attend Centerville City Schools, Incarnation Catholic School, Alter High School, Miami Valley School, Spring Valley Academy, or Dayton Christian School.
- ☐ Contestants must provide a copy their birth certificate or passport, preferably at the time of application.
- ☐ At the time of the speech, contestants must provide a double-spaced typed copy of the speech, with contestant’s name and sponsoring club included.

SUGGESTED TIMELINE

Applications Due: by January 13
 Prepare Outline: through January 20
 Practice Speech: through February 3
 Club Contests Begin: February 6

INDIVIDUAL CLUB CONTEST WINNERS ADVANCE TO ZONE 14 ORATORICAL CONTEST

The winners at the club level will compete at the Zone 14 Oratorical Contest on **Tuesday, March 14th**, at the **Woodbourne Library**
6060 Far Hills Ave., Centerville, OH

Application, with complete contest rules, is available at
www.optimist.org/documents/2023/programs/22-23_Oratorical_Application.pdf

Sponsoring Club	Place	Time	Contest Dates	
South Metro Optimist Club Contact: Jan Kledzik 500costumer@gmail.com	MCL Cafeteria 4485 Far Hills Ave.	5:45 pm	Monday, February 6	Monday, February 20
Centerville Noon Optimist Club Contact: Ron Thompson ronthompson@woh.rr.com 937.532.7251	The Gallery at Yankee Trace 10000 Yankee St.	11:45 am	Tuesday, February 7	Tuesday, February 21