



\$5000 in Scholarships are Offered

Topic: “How to Change the World with Optimism”

What: This contest offers an opportunity for children who are deaf or hard of hearing to present their thoughts in the community, gaining skills, which can only come from signing or speaking to an audience. **Two \$2,500 scholarships are offered**, one to a student who communicates using sign language and another to a student who communicates using spoken English.

Who: The contest is open to young people through grade 12. Students must submit the results of an audiogram¹, completed by a qualified audiologist no longer than 24 months prior to the date of the contest (April 27, 2024). Students must be certified to have a hearing loss of 40 decibels or more.

How To Enter: Interested students should contact their local Optimist Club. To find out the contact in your area, please e-mail joepriester@hotmail.com.

When: The deadline to enter is determined by the sponsoring Club.

Clubs and Districts, The deadline for Clubs to submit their contestants to the Judges of the competition is Monday April 22, 2024. All presentations are in VIDEO format.

The top three students in each category will be chosen to present their 'speech' at the

Colorado/Wyoming Optimist Conference held at the Third Quarter Conference at the **Family**

Resource Pavilion 9700 East Easter Lane Centennial CO 80112 on Saturday April 27, 2024. Winners will then be identified and presented with their plaque.

For more information please contact:

Joe Priester, District CCDHH Chair, 2692 Marston Heights Colorado Springs, CO 80920 (719) 590-1217 or Cell: (719)648-0935 or joepriester@hotmail.com

[NOTICE: All Presentations must be given in VIDEO form using either Zoom or another MP4 compatible format. Please see the Colorado Guidelines for presentation](#)

¹ -For children with a cochlear implant, please include the most recent programming report. If your child uses a cochlear implant and a hearing aid, only a Cochlear Implant programming report is required. Please do not include an audiogram in lieu of a programming report.