COMMUNICATION CONTEST
for the Deaf & Hard of Hearing

Topic: "How My Passions Impact the World"

Open to Participants in Eastern South Dakota through Grade 12

- To be eligible to compete students must be certified to have an uncorrected hearing loss of 40 decibels or more, which must be supported by an audiogram completed within 24 months of the contest.

- Communication time allowed will be not under 4 minutes or over 5 minutes

- Presentation can be given orally or by sign. Interpreters will be provided.

- Local Sioux Falls Morning Optimist Club will recognize 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize winners with a monetary award.

- First place winners will go on to compete at the district level in Fargo, North Dakota on May 2nd for one College Scholarship of $2500. Expenses will paid by SFCMC.

- Refer to Official Rules for complete information.

Application Deadline: March 1, 2014

Contest Date: March 8, 2014 at 10:00 a.m.

Location: South Dakota School for the Deaf
2001 E. 8th Street, Sioux Falls

Contact: Cheryl Dyvig, Chairperson
Phone: 605-359-4357
cheryldyvig@sio.midco.net
Sioux Falls Morning Optimist Club
Application for the 2013-2014 Communication Contest for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

Name ____________________________________________ M F
Address ____________________________________________
City _________________________________________________
State/Province ___________________________ Zip/Postal Code
Telephone (___) ___________________________ E-mail _____________________________
Date of Birth _____________ / _____________ / _____________ Age _____________

Have you participated in any other Optimist Club's Communication Contest for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing this school year? □ Yes □ No

Audiologist Verification:
I verify that the student listed above has a hearing loss of 40 decibels or more.
Signature _____________________________ Date / / _____________

Title ____________________________________________

Contest Agreement:
I have studied the rules of the contest, and I will be bound by all of the requirements.
Contestant’s Signature __________________________________ Date _____________ / / _____________

Parent or Guardian Permission:
I give my permission for my child/ward to participate in this contest.
Signature _____________________________ Date / / _____________

Relationship ____________________________

I, ____________________________________________ grant the Optimist Club International my permission to use a picture of my son/daughter __________________________________ for their public relations purposes. Optimist Club International may use the photo in any publication they see fit.
Sponsoring Optimist Club Name ____________________________
Sponsoring Optimist Club Number ____________________________

Please send application to address below:


Official Rules

Section I - General Rules
1. Contestants must enter through a local Optimist Club.
2. The CCDHi District Chair is responsible for all phases of the contest and his or her rulings in accordance with the official rules are final.
3. All competitions must be conducted by Optimists only.
4. The contest date, time and place will be determined by the Contest Chair.
5. All contestants must comply with the official rules of the contest.
6. The official application must be completed by each contestant and submitted to the sponsoring Club’s Contest Chair.
7. All Zone, Regional and District level contests must have a minimum of 3 contestants participating.

Section II - Qualifications for Contestants
1. The contest is open to young people through grade 12 in the United States and Canada. Students must have a hearing loss of 40 decibels or more in order to be eligible to participate. Participants must submit a speech and or presentation not to exceed 4 minutes in length.
2. Contestants are eligible for only one Club’s contest during any given year.
3. Each contestant must prepare his or her own presentation with limited assistance on content.

Improvements to the presentation can be made at any time.
4. A student who has won a District CCDHi or CCDHi scholarship is not eligible to compete at any level of the competition again.

Section III - Contest Rules
1. All contestants must make a presentation on the official contest topic.
2. Contestants can present in sign language, orally or using a combination of both.
3. Presentations may be delivered in a language other than English if the language used is the official language of the country in which the sponsoring Club is located.
4. The interpreter is to be provided by the sponsoring Optimist Club/Zone/District.

5. Contestants must give the official contest topic before beginning their presentation. If a contestant fails to do this, a 3-point penalty will be automatically assessed by the timekeeper.
6. Any quotation or copyrighted material used in the presentation must be identified with the original author's name. Failure to identify non-original material will result in disqualification.
7. The use of props, costumes or clothing, or the use of props will not be permitted. This penalty will be disqualification.
8. The presentation material used must be original, and no longer than 5 minutes. Contestants going over or under will be penalized one point for each 15 seconds or fraction of over or under the time limits. This penalty will be assessed by the timekeeper.
9. Timing will begin immediately after the official topic is given. Timing will stop when the contestant finishes.

Section IV - Judging and Scoring
1. Each contest must have three judges, one timekeeper and one certified interpreter.
2. The judges must be qualified to evaluate the presentation methods of all contestants with or without the assistance of an interpreter.
3. The judges and timekeepers must be located in the same room and be identified in any pre-publicity or at the contest until after the contest has been completed.
4. Judges are not permitted to discuss or compare scores or opinions on any of the contestants with anyone or each other. Judges must evaluate each presentation independently.
5. The judges' scores and penalties are confidential and should not be viewed by anyone except the Contest Chair.

For more information contact:
Cheryl Dyvig
5524 S Andrea Ave
Sioux Falls, SD 57106
605-359-4357
cheryldyvig@sio.mideco

Section V - Scoring
1. Material Organization - subject adherence, theme, content, color and logic. The maximum point award is 40 points.
2. Delivery & Presentation - delivery, gestures and emphasis. The maximum point award is 30 points.
3. Overall Effectiveness - appeal, impression, attitude and effect. The maximum point award is 30 points.

Section VI - Penalties
1. Failure to give official topic - 3 points
2. Failure to identify non-original material - disqualification
3. Use of props, etc. - disqualification
4. Time penalties - 1 point for each 15 seconds or fraction of over or under the limit
5. Self-identification - 5 points or fraction of based on degree of identification