

Mt. Vernon Optimist

Essay Contest

The 2026 Topic is

“How My Acts of Service Help Me Understand What My Community Means to Me”

Compose a 700 - 800 word essay on this topic

Contest is open to students under the age of 19 as of October 1, 2025

Cash Prizes awarded by Mt Vernon Optimist Club

- First Place \$300
- Second Place \$200
- Third Place \$100

The winner will advance to the district competition, The district winner will win a \$2500 scholarship

Completed applications and Essays must be presented to Mrs. Zelenick by Noon on Friday, February 13th

Please see Mrs. Zelencik for an entry form and copy of the official rules, or with any questions.

Applications available at Mt. Vernon High School Library or
www.mvoptimist.com

***All requirements can be found on the application.**