



WEDDINGTON OPTIMIST CLUB

Friends of Youth

Aubrey Moore Memorial Scholarships, Presented by The Weddington Optimist Club 2025 Awards

Scholarship History:

The Weddington Optimist Scholarship Program began in the Spring of 1997 under the direction of Aubrey Moore. The scholarship started with a laptop computer awarded to one school (Sun Valley HS). Over the years it expanded to twelve Union County High schools. Today, the program consists of 5 X \$2,000 one-time payment scholarships awarded to five deserving high school seniors across Union County.

Requirements:

This scholarship is open to high school seniors from the eligible schools who will be graduating in the Fall of 2024 or Spring 2025. Eligible High Schools: CATA, Cuthbertson, Forest Hills, Marvin Ridge, Monroe, Parkwood, Piedmont, Porter Ridge, Sun Valley, Union County Early College, Union Academy and Weddington. Graduating Seniors will have to be accepted into a 2 or 4-year higher education institution in the Fall of 2025 or Spring of 2026. The Weddington Optimists are looking for individuals who will be enthusiastic and optimistic that the scholarship will help them meet their life goals as they embark on new life experiences.

Answer the following question on page 2, by writing a 2-page essay. Essay should be double spaced, with 1-inch margins and font size no larger than 12. Bold words are allowed. Please include your full name, date, high school and guidance counselor's name in the essay's header. File format .doc or .pdf are acceptable. If scanning, make sure to use a high-resolution setting so the words will not be pixelated.

Essays are due on March 7, 2025 (this date can vary per your individual school), to your Scholarship Guidance Counselor. Guidance counselors will select 2 essays and will forward them to The Weddington Optimist Club. We will not accept any essays directly from students. Winners will be selected by the Weddington Optimist Club by April 15, 2025.

Other information:

A Scholarship Winners' Meet-and-Greet will be held at the Weddington Optimist Club outside picnic shelter on May 8, 2025, at 7:00 pm. A picnic meal will be provided. Winners, family members and counselors are invited.

Summary of Important dates:

March 7th – Essay due to scholarship guidance counselor (this date is flexible per your guidance counselor).

April 15th – Winners will be announced to the school's contact.

May 8th – Scholarship winners Meet-and-Greet at Weddington Optimist Park.

Contact:

Milton Sheffield, Aubrey Moore Memorial Scholarship Chair

Email: Scholarship@weddington-optimist.org

Essay Question:

Optimistically, describe why you deserve the scholarship? Include any volunteer work you have participated in the past few years. How has your volunteer work developed or expanded your optimistic views and experiences? Incorporate a phrase or two from Optimist Creed in your answer. The Optimist Creed is below, the individual phrases start with ‘To...’ with double spacing between each phrase (Each line item is a phrase).

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 that 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 to 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.

Essay reminders:

- 2-pages, max
- Double spaced
- 1-inch margins
- Font size no larger than 12
- Bold words are allowed
- File format: doc or pdf (if scanning, please select a high-resolution setting).
- Turn in your essay to the Scholarship Guidance Counselor by March 7th.
- Please include your first and last name, date, high school name and guidance counselor’s name in the essay header.