

Junior Optimist Octagon International (JOOI)

What is JOOI? JOOI (Junior Optimist Octagon International) Clubs are students with a common goal to make their communities better places by volunteering and are sponsored by local Optimist Clubs that are a part of Optimist International which was established in 1900. JOOI (pronounced JOY) Clubs reached the International level in 1989. Since that time, JOOI has grown to over 17,600 members in over 690 Clubs throughout the U.S., Canada, the Caribbean and France. Volunteering has become the thing to do for kids everywhere. The numbers are going up all the time thanks in part to great kids who want to make a difference in their community. Tons of kids all around the world are already trying it out and they've discovered that they are having fun AND helping other kids and their families at the same time. JOOI Clubs are service learning organizations that connect all Optimist JOOI Clubs. JOOI Clubs are designated as Alpha (Elementary), Junior (Middle School) and Octagon (High School) representing the world's most dynamic youth volunteers, performing one service project at a time.

The National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP) has added JOOI Clubs to their National Advisory List of Contests and Activities with the National Honor Society and Students Councils. This designation makes JOOI clubs, a significant school activity, and allows students to be excused during school to participate in JOOI activities when necessary.

JOOI CLUB MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

STUDENTS LEARN:

1. PLANNING SKILLS
2. ORGANIZING SKILLS
3. COORDINATING SKILLS
4. COMMUNICATION SKILLS
5. DECISION MAKING SKILLS
6. TIME MANAGEMENT SKILLS
7. LEADERSHIP SKILLS
8. PROJECT COMPLETION REVIEW SKILLS

STUDENT BENEFITS:

1. TEAMWORK
2. RULES ON CONDUCTING MEETINGS
3. RESPONSIBILITY
4. ACCOMPLISHMENT
5. SELF ESTEEM/EMPOWERMENT
6. JOY OF GIVING
7. KNOWLEDGE OF COMMUNITY NEEDS
8. COLLEGE & SCHOLARSHIP REQUIREMENTS

How many members does it take to start a JOOI Club? It only takes 8 students to start a JOOI club. JOOI club members determine the time, place and days to meet as well as what community projects they would like to perform and if Fundraisers are necessary to help meet their goals etc.

Is there a cost to students to participate? Yes, but it is minimal. The Monaco South Optimist Club sponsors each JOOI Club and the costs are \$8.00 for Alpha clubs at elementary schools, usually paid at \$1.00 per month by each student. There are scholarships available, so cost should not be a deterrent for a student to join.

OPTIMIST INTERNATIONAL'S MISSION

By providing hope and positive vision, we bring out the best in kids.

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT THE FOLLOWING WEBSITES:

WWW.OPTIMIST.ORG or WWW.JUNIOROPTIMISTS.ORG or WWW.MONACOSOUTH.ORG

JOOI CLUB MEMBERSHIP – BRADLEY INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

WHAT IS A JOOI CLUB?

With special guidance and support from a sponsoring Optimist Club, which is the Monaco South Optimist Club, Bradley Elementary School JOOI Club helps student's complete fun projects and activities to improve the community and better the lives of people within their community. As a member, you'll have opportunities to polish your leadership skills and practice good citizenship.

JOOI stands for Junior Optimist Octagon International and is the organization that connects all of the Optimist JOOI Clubs throughout the United States, Canada, the Caribbean, and France. The elementary school level is called an Alpha Club as it introduces students to the concept of a Community Service Club. There is a club for middle school (Junior Optimists) and high school (Octagon Clubs). Students that begin in elementary school often want to go on and establish or join a club at the next level.

WHAT KINDS OF PROJECTS CAN JOOI CLUBS DO?

The possibilities are endless! Every JOOI Club is challenged to study the needs of the community. The Bradley Elementary JOOI Club may choose to help community projects such as Ronald McDonald House, Brent's Place, Anchor Center for Blind Children or other non-profits; develop programs that will help younger children with literacy or math; complete environmental projects around their school; or adopt a senior citizen home to visit and befriend. Only the students' creativity and imagination will limit how they impact their community. Fundraising is not a priority, but some clubs decide to hold a bake sale, book sale or some other fundraising activity and the JOOI Club members decide why the money is needed and where it will go. It needs to be a part of their plan to help their community. Emphasis, however, is on doing for others.

There may be officers elected by Club members, by-laws established, and leadership and organizational skills developed. The dues structure for the year will be \$1.00 monthly or \$10.00 yearly which goes toward being a part of an International Organization. Club members will receive liability insurance coverage for Club projects, a news magazine, membership card and a JOOI pin. The Monaco South Optimist Club will provide scholarships for dues where needed. The Bradley Elementary JOOI Club will receive a club banner and gavel. There will be School Staff advisors and Monaco South Optimist Club advisors to aid members in their development and projects.

POINTS OF CONTACT FOR MONACO SOUTH OPTIMIST CLUB MEMBERS

Jon Wachter – President Monaco South Optimist Club

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Randy Marcove – Past President Monaco South Optimist Club

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JOOI CLUB - Bradley International School

Junior Optimist Octagon International (JOOI) Membership Application

Let's make a difference together!

Bradly International is looking for students who are interested in becoming JOOI Members. We will meet on a weekly or monthly basis during lunch. IB PYP Coordinator Melissa Capozza along with Monaco South Optimist Club members will work to guide the club in their learning about membership in a Community Service Club, in developing leadership, and in arranging for the club projects. Parents are invited to become a part of this team. Other Monaco South Club members will be available to share their experiences and help guide these students in their involvements. We will inform parents and students when the first meeting is scheduled (it should be mid February.) Parents are always invited.

Name: _____

(Please Print)

Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Grade: _____ Teacher: _____

Parent Permission _____

The information provided will be protected In Accordance With (IAW) the Privacy Act.