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Formed in 1982, the OPTIMIST BLIND YOUTH ASSOCIATION (OBYA) is an all-volunteer non-profit 501(c)(3) charitable organization that serves visually impaired and blind youth across the United States. Our \$100,000 budget goes to hosting the Optimist Blind Olympics as well as assisting blind children with other opportunities.

**Facts:** Blind youth need to achieve academic goals, but let's not forget that to be well rounded and healthy, it is very important that physical activity be included in their daily regimen. Many young people with visual challenges may have poor motor skills, poor posture, limited lung capacity as well as poor circulation. Since the inception of the Blind Olympics, many schools have helped young people prepare for the "Games" and to develop the skills needed for improved mobility, balance and self-confidence.

**Support:** OBYA coordinates and funds much of the cost for transportation, lodging, meals, and entertainment for our young athletes and their chaperones, many who travel from outside the Southern California area for four days filled with fun and learning.



OBYA  
P.O Box 5208  
West Hills, CA 91308



OPTIMIST BLIND YOUTH ASSOCIATION

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OPTIMIST CLUBS

SUPPORT BLIND YOUTH

at the

**OPTIMIST BLIND OLYMPICS**

**Saturday, April 25, 2020**

**9:00 am- 3:00 pm**

**JOIN US:** Come and be amazed at the courage and determination of these young athletes! Leave the Olympics feeling that you too can do anything you set your mind to do. That feeling of optimism lasts for a while; the goodness of the day will stay with you forever.



is held at

**Optimist Pacific Lodge Campus**

4900 Serrania Avenue. Woodland Hills, California 91364

*“Kindness is the language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see.” -Mark Twain*

Always on a pleasant Saturday in April or early May, more than 1,000 people gather to encourage 250 or more blind athletes, ages 6 to 19, in the Optimist Blind Olympics, at the beautiful Optimist Pacific Lodge Campus in the Woodland Hills area of Los Angeles.

Athletes challenge each other and their abilities in many events

**50 Meter Dash · Challenge Track · Archery · Kayaking · Rowing · Soccer Challenge · Climbing Wall · Goal Ball · Judo Obstacle Course**

Each athlete receives a participation medal or pin. Those who place in events go home with Gold, Silver or Bronze Medals. Most importantly the young people leave with greater self-esteem, fulfillment and new friends.

The Optimist Blind Olympics is not just a day of athletic events. It is a special opportunity for the blind young people to take part in activities a little different from those enjoyed by their sighted peers, in an environment that encourages participants to do their personal best.

The athletes engage in many activities all weekend which creates opportunities to make new friends from different communities who face similar challenges. The Optimist Blind Youth Association is proud to bring young people together in a warm, caring atmosphere that provides and fosters acceptance and achievement.



*“This is the best day of my life,  
I feel like I’m famous!”*

The Optimist Blind Olympics is more than medals and the spirit of competition. Sight loss represents obstacles that courage and perseverance can overcome. Courage and perseverance comprise the essence of the games.

*“We are never really happy until we try to brighten the lives of others.” -Helen Keller*

OBYA members and volunteers coach, keep score, man the games, act as guides as well as cheer the athletes on to victory.

**Our Mission:** Giving blind youth an opportunity to achieve new goals in their transition to adult life.

For more information.

Call Dara Laski at (818) 402- 5741

[www.optimistblindyouth.org](http://www.optimistblindyouth.org)

Whether you make a tax-deductible donation, volunteer, or do both, the reward is in the giving.

The Olympics are the centerpiece of an extraordinary weekend of fun and friendship. Please help us in making it a winning weekend!

### **Sponsorship Opportunities:**

Sponsor a Child: \$ 500 or any part thereof

Ice Cream Social: \$ 300

Pizza and Bowling Party: \$ 600

Dinner and Disco Party: \$ 2,500

Trip to Magic Mountain: \$5,000

Sponsor an Entire Team: \$5,000

We thank you.

All donations are greatly appreciated.

**Please send your tax-deductible donations to:**

OPTIMIST BLIND YOUTH ASSOCIATION

Attention: Dara Laski, President

Post Office Box 5208

West Hills, CA 91308-5208



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