



Rotary International
District 7090

ROTARY YOUTH LEADERSHIP AWARD PROGRAM

The State University of New York, College at Fredonia
June 13 – 19, 2010

Registration 3:30 pm Sunday June 13
Program closes 12 Noon Saturday June 19

THE PURPOSE OF RYLA

Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) is an intensive training program for youth ages 19-25. RYLA Programs have been taking place all around the world since 1960.

Talented young people attend a seminar, camp, or workshop, generally three to ten days in length, organized by Rotarians at the local club or district level. Participants' expenses are often paid by sponsoring Rotary clubs.

The RYLA program enables young people to debate issues of professional responsibility and human relations, improve leadership and communication skills, learn about businesses and institutions, and meet Rotarians while having fun and making friends. RYLA enables young adults to get to know themselves better and to cultivate the respect and trust of others. Participants will be able to identify their own leadership skills and determine ways to make more effective use of their resources. RYLA provides RYLArians the opportunity to refine skills and explore pertinent topics with their peers and elders.

For Rotarians, RYLA offers the chance to help develop leaders, share valuable expertise, and bridge the gap between generations.

THE PROGRAM

Overall Objectives

- To develop personal leadership and life management skills
- To use applied learning to build on concepts presented in order to make topics and discussions meaningful
- To create lasting bonds of friendship and fellowship among participants
- To support Rotary principles and encourage service beyond RYLA

In the RYLA program participants will:

- Gain exposure to issues and exchange ideas with talented people like themselves
- Learn how to coordinate youth activities and community service projects in their community
- Discuss creative approaches for resolving family, social, and professional conflicts
- Meet Rotary decision-makers in their community and learn about other Rotary programs

WHO PARTICIPATES IN RYLA?

The RYLA program is for young adults with proven leadership experience and potential leaders from diverse backgrounds. Whether they are a secondary school student, university student, or young professional, RYLA provides a unique opportunity to learn, grow, have fun, and make new friends. The RYLA experience prepares young people to be leaders in their community, profession, and other facets of everyday life.

THE COST

For 2009, the program cost is \$650 US per participant. Rotary clubs across District 7090 pay the cost of registrations on behalf of the candidates they select. The payment must be sent to

the Registrar with completed application Form. There are NO REFUNDS, so it is suggested you may want to select an alternate participant.

REGISTRATION

Clubs may want to book a spot or spots for prospective candidates by forwarding registration fees to the registrar in advance of deadlines. Remember that there are no refunds, so consider having an alternate candidate.

DEADLINES

Early registration - April 1, 2010 – 5% discount

Final deadline – May 15, 2010

Program runs – June 13 – 19, 2010

CAPACITY OF THE PROGRAM

Approximately 45 participants

COMMITMENT OF RYLARIANS

RYLA Participants must commit to attend the full program, staying on campus for the duration of the program, free of any other commitments for the entire period. RYLarians will be asked to surrender their car keys for the duration of the program.

SELECTION PROCESS

Clubs are encouraged to seek applications from young people who are known to members of their club or through contacts in business or at local colleges and universities. Note that applicants may be current students or recent graduates. Program organizers like to see a balance of students and graduates.

Applicants first present their applications to individual clubs, who then make a selection and forward their selections to the registrar.

Be sure that applicants understand that this is an intensive leadership seminar and that they must commit to full participation for the entire duration of the program. Candidates must be free from work or other commitments during the entire week, 24 hours a day.

Review Application Forms to be sure that they are complete and that you have complete contact information for applicants, who to notify in case of emergency/accident etc.

Contact personal references..

Conduct a personal face-to-face interview, with 2 or more Rotarians in attendance.

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION

When selecting your participants, look for maturity, commitment to RYLA, motivation, communication and leadership skills. Assessment of “potential for future leadership” may be difficult, so be sure that all criteria have been tested. RYLA requires selflessness, self-awareness and previously exhibited leadership qualities. In order to achieve maximum

benefit from the program candidates need the ability to communicate effectively and to work well with other young men and women.

RESPONSIBILITY OF PARTICIPATING ROTARY CLUBS

- To select and sponsor RYLA candidate(s)
- To submit application and registration forms to the RYLA Registrar
- To pay \$650 US per candidate as registration fee (5% discount if paid before April 1, 2010)
- To ensure that the candidate receives all appropriate documents distributed by the Registrar
- To assist, if necessary, in securing transportation to and from SUNY Fredonia
- To arrange for candidate to attend a Club meeting to speak about the RYLA experience and receive a RYLA certificate
- To obtain, to the extent possible, local media coverage for the candidate and program
- To have representative(s) from the club attend the Thursday night RYLA dinner during the RYLA program – Thursday June 17, 2010.

REGISTRAR

Cheryle Slattery
70 Stella St
Fonthill, ON
Canada L0S 1E7
905-892-1510

cherylet@cogeco.ca

THE RYLA SERVICE PROJECT

As a result of an initiative by the 2006 RYLA participants, for the past few years the RYLA group have devised an ongoing activity, taking the form of a service project. During the course of the RYLA week, RYLarians discuss amongst themselves what kind of project they would like to adopt. The project enables RYLarians to maintain their commitments to the program objectives and to keep in touch with one another. For instance in 2008, the group elected to raise funds for an orphanage in Kenya at which one of the RYLarians had volunteered the previous year.

FEEDBACK FROM 2008 PARTICIPANTS

Comments from participants in the 2008 RYLA program include:

- “I feel so privileged to have been selected for this program. Please don’t ever stop this program. Ever !”
- “I have experienced an event that has changed my outlook on life entirely.”
- “ What I liked most were the lasting relationships that were formed and how we learned so much about each other in such a short time.

DISTRICT RYLA COMMITTEE

Chair

Doug Johnson Welland jai@vaxine.com

Registrar

Cheryle Slattery	Fonthill	Cherylet@cogeco.ca 905-892-1510
Chris Blake	St Catharines	cblake@me.com
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Sue O'Dwyer	Norfolk Sunrise	sodwyer@hamilton.ca
Sue Patterson	Port Colborne	suepatterson@portcolborne.ca
Matt Pomeroy	RYLA '06	pomeroy.matt@hotmail.com

PROGRAM DETAILS – A Brief Summary

Level One

Personal Development and Self Assessment

Objectives

- To become more aware of what makes us who we are by examining personal style, values, ethics, family traditions etc.
- To work on areas identified by participants to strengthen leadership effectiveness
- To learn how to work with and adapt to others' styles and needs
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Level Two

Group Dynamics and Team Development

Objectives

- To build trust
- To learn how to work effectively in various groups sizes and purposes
- To apply team concepts to the achievement of goals
- To understand group dynamics and issues, and how to use them to increase leadership effectiveness.
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Level Three

Organizational Systems and Career Development

Objectives

- To understand contemporary organizational structures, management philosophies and workplace challenges
- To develop understanding of and competency in the use of leadership and facilitation tools
- To consider career choices, fits and options.