



District 7610

Rotary Youth Leadership Awards

Club Information Package

October 8-10, 2021

Prince William Forest Park



Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA)

Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) is an intensive training program that brings together youth and young adults, ages 14-30, to further develop character and leadership skills and learn about Rotary. RYLAs often take the form of a seminar, camp, or workshop, generally 3-10 days in length, organized by Rotarians at the club, district, or multidistrict level. District 7610 organizes a weekend camp (Friday 4pm to Sunday noon), for high school students in the beautiful Prince Williams Forest Park.

Participants are nominated by local Rotary clubs, which often cover all expenses (\$250 per student). For these young adults, this recognition offers the opportunity to build self-confidence, gain exposure to a variety of issues and people, meet active community leaders, and learn valuable information and career skills.

RYLA gives Rotarians the opportunity to mentor promising young leaders serving their own communities and beyond. Rotarians serve as resources for participants on the path to becoming professional and community leaders. In turn, RYLA can bring new energy to a Rotary district, inspire ideas for service, increase support of community service projects, and develop future Rotarians.

Originating in 1959 in Queensland, Australia, RYLA was created as a festival highlighting local youth organized in honor of a royal visit by Princess Victoria. Through Rotarians' constant belief in the potential of youth, RYLA has since become an opportunity to help the next generation of leaders define themselves and expand their skills. Officially adopted by Rotary International (RI) in 1971, this exciting program engages Rotary clubs and districts around the world.

Each RYLA shares the following program objectives:

- To demonstrate Rotary's respect and concern for youth
- To encourage and assist young people in responsible and effective voluntary youth leadership by providing them with a valuable training experience
- To foster continued and stronger leadership of youth by youth
- To publicly recognize the many young people who are rendering service to their communities as youth leaders

Club Responsibilities

The Club President, Board of Directors, and the appointed RYLA representative need to determine the schools to approach and administrative contacts. RYLA campers will be primarily juniors or seniors with sophomores and freshmen accepted by exception and on a space available basis. The ideal candidate will be a student who has proven his/her leadership skills academically and with his/her efforts to serve the school community and/or the community at large. Please select candidates that represent the ethnicity and cultural diversity of your community with an eye towards gender balance. It is also suggested that you give preference to members of the high schools Interact Club.

Each Rotary Club should solicit the help of principals, guidance counselors, and other key personnel to assist in the selection of prospects for a Camp RYLA scholarship. Students who are striving to attend the better colleges and universities like having an activity such as Camp RYLA on their resumes in hopes of influencing the selection boards. The RYLA committee recommends you choose two or more Rotarians to conduct short interviews of prospective candidates to select the finalist(s) if time allows. The following steps will assist clubs in completion required actions:



- Send the official RYLA application, if not already completed, to applicants with a date and place for interviews. A realistic club goal would be to identify the officers of the sponsored Interact Club.
- Have selected attendee(s) and alternate(s) take the applications and consent forms home to complete and have parents/guardian sign the Student Applications and the Parental Consent Forms.
- Submit the following documents to RYLA staff:
 - Official applications with the required signatures and a photograph attached
 - Signed parental consent and medical release form
 - Club sponsorship form
 - RYLA tuition (Clubs may submit tuition in advance to secure camp positions)
 - Optional program and/or material sponsorship opportunities indicated and with correlating funds

The Rotarian assigned to be the club RYLA representative is to arrange transportation by Rotarians, parents, or guardians, to and from the event. No exceptions unless approved by the District Chairman. Liability issues make it vital that no student is allowed to drive a personal vehicle to the camp (or friends, peers, boyfriends, girlfriends, etc.) Please notify the District Chairman of transportation arrangements for your camper(s).

Students are to return to the sponsoring club to make their RYLA presentation (after they return from the camp) at a regularly scheduled Rotary meeting as soon as possible.

District 7610 RYLA Important Info

The **2021 District 7610 RYLA camp will be from Friday October 8 (4:00pm) to Sunday October 10 (noon)** in the Prince William Forest Park. More information on the camp location will be shared in September.

District 7610 RYLA Staff

If you have any questions, or comments, please do not hesitate to visit our webpage:

<http://www.rotary7610.org/RYLA.htm>

or contact our RYLA Team:

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|------------------|-----------------------|--------------|--|
| Valerie Beaudoin | RYLA Administrator | 571-246-7092 | valerie.beaudoin@gmail.com |
| Valerie Meale | Counselor Coordinator | 703-283-4272 | valeriemeale@comfortkeepers.com |
| Brett Voeltz | Speaker Coordinator | 540-903-8569 | brett.voeltz@gmail.com |

We will be following CDC and National Park Services guidelines in place at the time of the camp.

<https://www.nps.gov/prwi/status.htm>

Full vaccination against COVID-19 is not required but highly recommended.



District 7610 Rotary Youth Leadership Awards
 Club Sponsorship Form

Thank you for your Club’s commitment to the District 7610 RYLA program. Student participants are sponsored by their local Rotary Clubs for the two-day camp. Young leaders from our Interact Clubs are our primary target audience; however, we welcome other students who have demonstrated leadership skills and have the qualities necessary to contribute to this program. Please complete this form with your desired sponsorships and submit by **October 3, 2021**.

Student Sponsorship

- The Rotary Club of _____ will sponsor _____ participant(s) at a cost of \$250 per participant for a total cost of \$ _____.

Meal Sponsorship (in full or in part)

- Opening Night Pizza Party - Friday evening, October 8 \$150.00 _____
- Ice Cream Social - Saturday evening, October 9 \$100.00 _____
- Family Barbeque - Sunday lunch, October 10 \$500.00 _____
- Breaks - soft drinks, bottled water, snacks for 5 breaks \$300.00 _____

Name of Club _____ Date: _____

RYLA Coordinator Name: _____ Signature: _____

Coordinator Phone Number: _____ Email: _____

Make checks payable to: **District 7610 RYLA**

Send this form with your club's check attached to:

Valérie Beaudoin
 RYLA Administrator
 604 North St. NE
 Leesburg, VA 20176
 571-246-7092
 valerie.beaudoin@gmail.com