



Rotary Youth Leadership Awards- District 6940  
March 31 – April 3, 2022

# SELECTION PACKET

[www.rotary6940.org](http://www.rotary6940.org)

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Rotary Youth Leadership Awards- District 6940

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## INTRODUCTION

Officially adopted by Rotary International in 1971, Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) is one of the most significant and fastest-growing programs of Rotary service. Each year, thousands of young people take part in the program worldwide. The impact spreads further as the program influences other young people, and RYLA programs often lead to the formation or strengthening of Rotaract and Interact clubs.

**Leadership, Citizenship & Personal Development** - RYLA is an intensive training program for community youth leaders. Each spring, 10<sup>th</sup> - graders chosen for their past service to the community and leadership potential are awarded an all-expenses-paid camp to discuss leadership skills and to learn those skills through practice.

### RYLA AIMS:

1. Demonstrate Rotary's respect and concern for youth
2. Provide an effective training experience for selected youth and potential leaders
3. Encourage leadership of youth by youth
4. Publicly recognize young people who are providing service to their communities

### RYLA Seminars:

Awardees attending the RYLA seminars can expect to further develop their personal and leadership skills in the following key areas:

1. *Communication Skills*: Participants will have the opportunity to: develop interpersonal skills; communicate, listen and write more effectively; engage in some form of public speaking in a warm, supportive environment
2. *Personal Qualities*: Participants will have the opportunities to: identify the various types of personality; help people to get along with each other; manage their own time more effectively; avoid stressful situations; plan for healthier living
3. *Leadership*: Participants will have the opportunity to: identify the characteristics of effective leaders; become aware of the various styles of leadership; observe effective leaders operating in a meeting situation
4. *Problem Solving Strategies*: Participants will have the opportunity to: brainstorm and think creatively; engage in practical problem solving and decision making activities; use a problem solving model in a practical situation

Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) in Rotary District 6940

RYLA Chair: Olevia McNally, [ryla6940@gmail.com](mailto:ryla6940@gmail.com) or 850-380-0465 cell

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## RYLA FACT SHEET

PLEASE READ THIS FACT SHEET AND **SIGN BELOW TO INDICATE YOUR CLUB'S COMMITMENT TO AND UNDERSTANDING OF RYLA!** (Scan and email a copy of the form to District RYLA Chair: [ryla6940@gmail.com](mailto:ryla6940@gmail.com))

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Please consider, this camp takes place in the woods and is an award that is designed to help strengthen leadership skills for 10<sup>th</sup> graders who have the capacity to use what they learn to go to the next stage of leadership! It is not a camp designed as a “second-chance” opportunity to steer kids onto the “right” path. Please do not submit a student for consideration to help ensure they have “equal” opportunity or to help solve discipline problems. This is not the right environment for those students. Additionally, while we have medical staff available- we are not equipped to handle medical conditions that require considerable one-on-one attention.

Dates for RYLA 2022:

March 31 – April 3, 2022

Place:

Adventures Unlimited Outdoor Center

Milton, FL

850-623-6197

[www.adventuresunlimited.com](http://www.adventuresunlimited.com)

Timeline:

OCTOBER – DECEMBER 2021: RYLA applications are distributed to nominees. Nominations from teachers are solicited via the MEMO TO TEACHERS (in RYLA selection packet).

DECEMBER 1, 2021: YOUR CLUB COMMITMENT IS DUE!!! Please email Olevia McNally at [ryla6940@gmail.com](mailto:ryla6940@gmail.com) with the number of student RYLarians and/or ALUMNI you agree to support. Rotary clubs commit to a planned number of students and send appropriate tuition total to Rotary District 6940 Foundation RYLA Chair. Print: RYLA and # of slots sponsored in notes field of the check bottom left.

JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2021: Applications are received and reviewed by Rotary clubs. Interviews are scheduled. Students are selected.

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MARCH 1, 2021: Complete applications and forms of selected students are sent to RYLA Committee.

APRIL 15, 2021: Final transportation arrangements are made.

MARCH 31 - APRIL 3, 2021: RYLA

Cost to Clubs: Tuition is \$325 per each student. Clubs must make check payable to Rotary District 6940 RYLA Foundation and mail to RYLA Chair by December 11, 2021 (Club President initials \_\_\_\_). Transportation costs varies with travel distance and is not part of tuition. It is your club’s responsibility to arrange transportation for your sponsored students (Club President initials \_\_\_\_). **Please make club checks payable to Rotary Dist. 6940 Foundation and send to Olevia McNally, District 6940 RYLA Chair, 130 Chipley Avenue, Pensacola, FL 32503. Questions about payments? 850-380-0465**

Transportation: Each Rotary club is responsible for getting their students to RYLA. Most clubs coordinate transportation with other area clubs to car (van) pool. Some clubs utilize church vans and personal vehicles. Other clubs rent vans from vendors such as Enterprise. In the past, the average fuel/van cost for rentals has been \$60 to \$70 per student. By initialing her you are acknowledging that you will arrange transportation for your sponsored student and that you will email the District RYLA Chair and Transportation Chair the contact information and details of transportation plan by March 15, 2022 at [ryla6940@gmail.com](mailto:ryla6940@gmail.com) (Club President initials \_\_\_\_).

My club will sponsor # students: \_\_\_\_\_ I understand I must submit the complete application on my sponsored students by March 1, 2022 and that even if we do not submit a student we are responsible for the cost associated with one student slot per the number indicated at \$325 each. **No applications will be accepted after March 1, 2022.**

Club Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Club Contact (print name): \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email of Club Contact: \_\_\_\_\_  
Club President’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Club President’s Signature: \_\_\_\_\_  
Date: \_\_\_\_\_ # RYLA slots: \_\_\_\_\_



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## SELECTION PROCESS

Since there is wide-spread agreement among Rotarians involved with RYLA in District 6940 that the success of RYLA is, in a large degree, affected by the type of student selected to attend, the RYLA Organizing Committee adopted the following recommended selection process on July 24, 2004.

1. First, RYLA is SPECIAL and should be presented as an AWARD for past service or demonstrated leadership potential. Instead of indiscriminately blanketing a campus with RYLA applications, nominations from all teachers of 10<sup>th</sup> grade students should be solicited. Through the use of the one page MEMO TO TEACHERS, the optimal RYLA candidate (i.e. an emerging achiever in need of a little boost) can be communicated to teachers so a quality field of candidates can be assembled.
2. Once a group of students have been nominated by the teachers, a Rotarian and a RYLA graduate should do a short talk about RYLA to the field of candidates. RYLA talks are most effective when pictures of past years are available.
3. After the meeting, the RYLA two page applications should be distributed to students who continue to be interested.
4. Once applications are returned, short 10-15 minute interviews should be scheduled with the students. In this way, your club will be able to make quality selections based on first hand knowledge. If there are too many applicants to interview, perhaps Rotarians could meet with the school principal/counselor to cull the group to a manageable number. The interview is also a good time to verify the student's schedule is clear for RYLA and that the student definitely has an interest. In addition to selecting the number of students your club has budgeted for RYLA, a number of alternates should be selected. Drop-outs are possible, and a good group of alternates minimizes this risk. We recommend each club select one or two alternates.
5. After selections have been made, prompt phone calls to the selected students and their parents should follow.
6. VERY IMPORTANT!!! Once your club has selected the student to attend RYLA, send the RYLA Application to the prospective RYLArian.
7. Email the application forms for each selected student to RYLA Chair so official "award" letters can be sent. It is not necessary to send the application of alternates unless one of your students drops out.



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**ROTARY YOUTH LEADERSHIP AWARDS**  
**ROTARY DISTRICT 6940 APPLICATION**

**Leadership, Citizenship & Personal Development** - Every spring, Rotary clubs across North West Florida, from Pensacola to Lake City, award an intensive leadership training weekend to approximately seventy tenth grade students. The weekend is paid for completely by sponsoring Rotary clubs and is run entirely by Rotary club members. At RYLA, tenth graders will learn the different styles of leaders, will learn how to take charge of a group, will learn to speak publicly, will learn ethics, problem solving and will build confidence by taking reasonable risks. For more information about RYLA in this area, please contact the RYLA chair listed below.

Go online to complete the RYLA application. Online application is being created. Will send link once created.

**ROTARY DISTRICT 6940 CHAIR**

**Olevia McNally**

**850-380-0465 (depends on cell reception in the woods)**

**[ryla6940@gmail.com](mailto:ryla6940@gmail.com) –email will sometimes reach when cell service is limited**

**Important Dates:**

**-March 1, 2022 (all paperwork due)**

**-March 31, 2022 (start of camp)**

**-April 3, 2022 (end of camp)**

**Checklist of Items that RYLA Chair must have by March 1, 2022**

**Adventures Unlimited Release**

**Medical Release Form (notarized)**

**Code of Conduct Form**

**RYLA Application (complete online)**

**EMAIL FORMS TO SPONSORING ROTARY CLUB RYLA COORDINATOR**

*Please include one letter of recommendation from someone other than your parent or guardian. This recommendation should be attached in a sealed envelope. Please understand that this camp is run by Rotarian volunteers and that professional counselors are not available to minister to highly involved therapies (physical or emotional).*

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RYLA Chair: Olevia McNally, [ryla6940@gmail.com](mailto:ryla6940@gmail.com) or 850-380-0465 cell

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**MEMO TO TEACHERS**

From: **THE ROTARY CLUB OF** \_\_\_\_\_

Re: **ROTARY YOUTH LEADERSHIP AWARDS - March 31 – April 3, 2022**

Every spring, Rotary clubs across northwest Florida, from Pensacola to Lake City, award an intensive leadership training weekend to approximately eighth grade students. The weekend is paid for completely by sponsoring Rotary clubs and is run entirely by Rotary club members. At RYLA, your tenth graders will learn the different styles of leaders, will learn how to take charge of a group, will learn to speak publicly, will learn ethics, problem solving and will build confidence by taking reasonable risks.

In awarding our weekend, we have a certain type of student in mind. Here is what we are looking for:

1. Current 10<sup>th</sup> graders only.
2. Males and Females
3. All colors, creeds and interests.
4. A student who is on the cusp of taking charge but needs just a little boost. That is, we desire a student who has shown an interest in service but needs some encouragement and confidence building to take charge.
5. We are looking for “C” students, “B” students and “A” students but not necessarily the “straight-A captain of the football team or cheer leading squad.” We like interesting mixes.

If you know of a student fitting the above criteria who has an interest in personal growth, please forward their name to \_\_\_\_\_ by (DATE) \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_.

Thank you for helping us train the next generation of leaders.

If you have questions, please contact \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_ Rotary Club at (phone) (\_\_\_\_)\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ or via email at \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_



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**Medical Release Form- Must be returned **notarized** by March 1, 2022**

I \_\_\_\_\_ (parent/legal guardian) hereby give permission for any and all medical attention to be administered to my child \_\_\_\_\_ (child's name) in the event of accident, injury, illness, sickness etc. under the direction of the person/group listed below, until such time as I may be contacted. I also assume responsibility for the payment of any such treatment. This release is effective for the period of one year from the date given below.

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

INSURANCE COMPANY: \_\_\_\_\_

POLICY NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

In case I cannot be reached, any of the following persons is designated to act on my behalf:

Olevia McNally- RYLA Chair (or her Rotarian designee – in writing)

Adventures Unlimited Staff

RYLA Facilitators or Rotarian Volunteer Staff

PHYSICIAN: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

KNOWN ALLERGIES/MEDICAL CONDITIONS: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

CURRENT MEDICATIONS/DOSAGE: \_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE (parent/guardian) \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

Subscribed and sworn before me \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
(notary public)





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**Code of Conduct**

In order for the RYLA staff to concentrate on delivering a program of leadership and character development, free enterprise, and patriotic values, they must be free of concerns about behavior problems among the RYLA attendees. RYLA is only four days and the volunteers staffing the camp do not have the time or interest in managing boys/girls who do not wish to be in camp or have no appreciation for the RYLA experience. The following behavior traits are not found in good leaders, and in this spirit, will not be tolerated in camp. Failure to follow these rules will be grounds for dismissal from RYLA, which will require transportation home at the parent's/guardian's expense.

1. Cheating/Dishonest behavior - Whether as an individual or as your team in competitions, cheating will not be tolerated.
2. Disregard for Authority - Constant questioning or arguing about the rules of camp, tournaments, etc., cannot be tolerated. We will not change the rules for you or your team.
3. Intimidation of Others - This refers to how you react to other campers and teams. If you can't get along with others without being the "top dog" or you tend to be a poor loser, perhaps RYLA isn't for you. True leaders rise to the top without threats or inconsiderate actions.
4. Disrespect - You only get to be at RYLA for four short days. Have fun, but be respectful of others at camp, especially the speakers. Talking during a speaker's presentation will not be tolerated.
5. Rudeness - Inappropriate comments on another's race, religion, athletic ability, character, looks, etc., will not be tolerated as they do not contribute to a positive RYLA experience.
6. Lateness - Be on time and have your team present on time. We don't start meals until everyone shows up. Our speakers frequently are on a tight schedule and shouldn't have to wait for us.
7. No P.D.A. (public display of affection) between couples. Couples are not permitted to be off alone, daylight or dark.
8. Sleeping arrangements are same-sex youth in a cabin with an adult same-sex Rotarian to serve as cabin monitors. Room assignments are made by staff in an effort to maximize your opportunity to make new friends. Changing of room assignments is not permitted without prior approval by the RYLA staff.
9. Outgoing calls may only be made through approval of a RYLA counselor. A 24-hour, 7 days a week telephone number is available for any incoming **emergency** calls. **(850-623-6197 or 800-239-6864). There is no cell phone use allowed during RYLA. No texting or cell use allowed. RYLA chairs can be reached at 850-380-0465 depending on reception.**
10. Any other behavior which makes you a liability instead of an asset to RYLA. You were selected to attend RYLA because someone knew you are a leader among your peers. Even if **you** aren't aware of your leadership potential, act like it's there and let us help you develop it.

I understand the above guidelines and intend to have as much fun as possible at RYLA without violating any of the above guidelines.

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(RYLA Participant)

**Parent's Statement:** I understand that should my son or daughter become a liability to the RYLA Program, he or she will need to be picked up at camp as soon as possible or transported home at my expense. I will be available at the following phone numbers during the week of camp should a problem occur. I give permission for conference staff or its designees to take photographs of my son/daughter/ward, and I understand that such photographs will be used only to promote the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards Program and could be published in the news media for such purpose.

Contact numbers: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian



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## Adventures Unlimited Outdoor Center

8974 Tomahawk Landing Road, Milton, FL, 32570  
www.adventuresunlimited.com

850.623.6197  
800.239.6864

Cabins - Canoe - Kayak - Tube - Orienteering - Ropes Course

### READ BEFORE SIGNING

Individuals who suffer from high blood pressure, heart disease, back problems, emotional instability, pregnancy or acrophobia should not go on high ropes without consulting their physician. In consideration of being allowed to participate in any way in the Adventures Unlimited Ropes Challenge Course program, related events and activities, I, \_\_\_\_\_, the undersigned, acknowledge, appreciate and agree that:

1. The risk of injury from the activities involved in this program is significant, including the potential for permanent paralysis and death, and while particular rules, equipment, and personal discipline may reduce this risk, the risk of serious injury does exist; and,
2. I KNOWINGLY AND FREELY ASSUME ALL SUCH RISKS, both known and unknown, EVEN IF ARISING FROM THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASEES or others, and assume full responsibility for my participation; and,
3. I willingly agree to comply with the stated and customary terms and conditions for participation. If, however, I observe any unusual significant hazard during my presence or participation, I will remove myself from participation and bring such to the attention of the nearest official immediately; and,
4. I, for myself and on behalf of my heirs, assigns, personal representatives and next of kin, HEREBY RELEASE, INDEMNIFY AND HOLD HARMLESS Adventures Unlimited, Inc., their officers, officials, agents and/or employees, other participants, sponsoring agencies, sponsors, advertisers, and, if applicable, owners and lessors of premises used to conduct the event ("Releasees"), WITH RESPECT TO ANY AND ALL INJURY, DISABILITY, DEATH, or loss or damage to person or property, WHETHER ARISING FROM THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASEES OR OTHERWISE, to the fullest extent permitted by law; and,
5. I understand that the use of equipment furnished by ADVENTURES UNLIMITED constitutes and acceptance of said equipment. I agree to pay for any damage done to said equipment, property or property of others.

**I HAVE READ THIS RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND ASSUMPTION OF RISK AGREEMENT, FULLY UNDERSTANDING ITS TERMS. I UNDERSTAND THAT I HAVE GIVEN UP SUBSTANTIAL RIGHTS BY SIGNING IT, AND SIGN IT FREELY AND VOLUNTARILY WITHOUT ANY INDUCEMENT.**

X \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ Date Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

**Participant's Signature**

**FOR PARENTS/GUARDIANS OF PARTICIPANTS OF MINORITY AGE  
(UNDER AGE 18 AT THE TIME OF REGISTRATION)**

This is to certify that I, as parent/guardian with legal responsibility for this participant, do consent and agree to his/her release as provided above of all the Releasees, and, for myself, my heirs, assigns, and next of kin. I release and agree to indemnify and hold harmless the Releasees from any and all liabilities incident to my minor child's involvement or participation in these programs as provided above, EVEN IF ARISING FROM THE NEGLIGENCE OF THE RELEASEES, to the fullest extent permitted by law.

X \_\_\_\_\_  
**Parent/Guardian Signature Emergency Phone # s Date Signed**



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## MEMO TO PARENTS AND LEGAL GUARDIANS

From: **Olevia McNally - District 6940 Chair for RYLA 2022**

Re: **ROTARY YOUTH LEADERSHIP AWARDS - March 31 – April 3, 2022**

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### **Important Numbers:**

**ADVENTURES UNLIMITED – IN CASE OF EMERGENCY**

**24-hour, 7 days a week telephone number(s): 850-623-6197 or 800-239-6864**

### **ROTARY DISTRICT 6940 CHAIR**

Olevia McNally

850-380-0465 (depends on cell reception in the woods)

[ryla6940@gmail.com](mailto:ryla6940@gmail.com) –email will sometimes reach when cell service is limited

### **Important Dates:**

-March 1, 2022 (all paperwork due)

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-April 3, 2022 (end of camp)

### **Checklist of Items that RYLA Chair must have by March 1, 2022**

Adventures Unlimited Release

Medical Release Form (**notarized**)

Code of Conduct Form

RYLA Application (complete online)

**EMAIL FORMS TO SPONSORING ROTARY CLUB RYLA COORDINATOR**

**Other:** Make sure your child has a signed Memo to Teachers for every class they will miss March 31 & April 1.

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