



Rotary
District 7730



RYLA

Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) is an intensive leadership experience where students develop their skills as leaders while having fun and making connections. The program is organized by your local Rotary clubs and the Rotary District of SE North Carolina.

What are the benefits?

As a participant in RYLA, you will connect with leaders from the community and around the world to:

- Build communication and problem-solving skills.
- Discover strategies for becoming a dynamic leader in your school or community.
- Learn from community leaders, inspirational speakers, and peer mentors.
- Unlock your potential to turn motivation into action.
- Have fun and form everlasting relationships.

How do I apply for RYLA?

Talk to your guidance counselor about completing an application. The application deadline to your counselor is November 11, 2023, at 5:00 pm. Here is the link that the student's will use to complete their application. ***RYLA Student Application*** (<https://www.IsMyRotaryClub.org/App/?ID=164>)

How am I selected for RYLA?

Each year, high school juniors from local high schools in New Hanover County will be selected by their guidance counselor to participate in a local RYLA conference at UNCW.

- Guidance counselors will consider:
- Your self-awareness. You should have a positive attitude and exhibit confidence with willingness to meet others and debate current issues.
- Your ambitions after high school. You may want a vocational career from a community college or apprentice program or a professional career through a university or graduate school.
- Your social engagement. You may have a job while attending school, be active in a team sport or in a community organization outside school.
- Your academic performance. You should be an above average student with good study habits.

Note: As the sponsoring organization, Rotary supports all students, including those who have had life experiences such as racial discrimination, sexual harassment, parental divorce, homelessness, disabilities, or recent immigration to the United States.

Once the RYLA Committee receives a student's application, the student will be notified of their acceptance with details about the local conference.

IMPORTANT: Ten students will be appointed by the local RYLA Committee to attend the District 7730 RYLA Leadership Conference in Pine Knoll Shores, NC scheduled from Friday, January 26 to Sunday, January 28, 2024.

What are other youth programs in Rotary besides RYLA?

Interact is a service club for high school students who want to connect with other young people and have fun while serving their communities and learning about the world. Clubs, which meet at least twice a month, are sponsored by local Rotary clubs. Interact clubs organize two projects every year, one that helps their school or community and one that promotes international understanding. Members of sponsor Rotary clubs mentor Interactors as they carry out the projects and develop leadership skills.

Rotaract is a service club for young people ages 18 to 30 who are dedicated to finding innovative solutions to the world's most pressing challenges while developing leadership skills and making friends from around the world. Rotaract clubs decide how to organize and run their own clubs, manage their funds, and plan and carry out activities and service projects that are important to their communities. Rotary clubs that sponsor Rotaract clubs offer guidance and support and work with Rotaractors as partners in service.

What is Rotary?

Rotary International is a civic, apolitical, and non-sectarian organization in over 200 countries and territories world-wide. Rotary clubs value contributions from people of different cultural backgrounds having different ideas, thoughts and beliefs. Rotary International and District 7730 are committed to cultivating a diverse, equitable and inclusive society so essential for making the world a better place to live.

Some key points about Rotary:

- Rotary began in 1905 in Chicago.
- Rotary's central objective is "Service Above Self".
- Rotary was founded by Paul Harris, a young attorney who brought together business and professional people who value feelings of friendship and fellowship.
- Rotary International is the world's first service organization and now has over 1.4 million members worldwide.

Rotary clubs in District 7730 have worked over 100 years to make the community a better place to live, work, and raise families through members' volunteer efforts.

Every year, the Rotary clubs in District 7730 participate in efforts around the world to promote one or more of the following seven focus areas:

1. Promoting peace
2. Fighting disease
3. Providing clean water, sanitation, and hygiene
4. Saving mothers and children
5. Supporting education
6. Growing local economies
7. Protecting the environment