

THE ROTARY CONNECTION

Rotary is one of the largest international service associations, with over 32,000 clubs in more than 200 countries and areas. Its members are dedicated to humanitarian service, high ethical standards in their personal and professional life, and the promotion of world understanding and peace.



One of the goals of Rotary is to help young people develop their leadership abilities and self-confidence to the fullest. To accomplish this goal, Rotary clubs prepare thousands of young leaders through Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) programs each year. RYLA events are organized and facilitated by Rotary volunteers.

Rotary clubs also sponsor other, complementary programs for young people. They include Rotaract (a service club for young adults), Interact (a service club for high school students), Youth Exchange (a chance to live and study abroad), and Ambassadorial Scholarships (for university or post-university study abroad).



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ROTARYDISTRICT 5340

SERVING:

San Diego County, Imperial County,
 and Blythe in Riverside County



ROTARY YOUTH
 LEADERSHIP AWARDS



Rotary District 5340

www.ryla5340.org

WHAT IS RYLA?

Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) is a program that originated with Rotary International and has subsequently been specifically designed by Rotary District 5340 for the students in San Diego and Imperial Counties. RYLA encourages servant leadership in youth by recognizing and rewarding deserving 11th grade students who are chosen to attend RYLA as an "award" for their past and present leadership and service activities. These select young people attend an all-expenses-paid camp where they are inspired by a diverse group of exceptional speakers, make life-long friends through fellowship activities, and discuss the ethical and social issues of today. These activities are conducted in an atmosphere of trust and respect. The result is that these students return to their schools and communities motivated to take on additional leadership roles and to find additional ways to serve.

Each year, thousands of high school juniors take part in this experience worldwide. At your RYLA, you will be joined by talented young people from other communities in your area. RYLA provides a memorable opportunity to learn, grow and have fun, while making some new friends along the way. Those who attend a RYLA program are generally better able to successfully manage their own lives, careers and make a mark on society.



WHAT DOES RYLA FOCUS ON?

RYLA focuses on leadership and professional development. The purpose of RYLA is to give high school juniors an opportunity to listen and exchange ideas with other outstanding community and student leaders. RYLA core curriculum includes:

- Fundamentals of leadership
- Ethics of positive leadership
- Importance of communication skills in effective leadership
- Conflict management and problem solving
- Problem-solving and conflict management
- Building self-confidence and self-esteem
- Elements of community and global citizenship
- Rotary's purpose of service to the community and world



the experience,



RYLA



the knowledge,



the fun...

DURING THE RYLA EXPERIENCE YOU...

- Gain exposure to issues, and exchange ideas with thoughtful people like you, in an atmosphere free from distraction.
- Explore new career paths or learn more about your chosen field through discussions with successful adults.
- Learn how to arrange youth activities and service projects in your community.
- Discuss creative approaches for resolving family, social, and professional conflicts.
- Get to know Rotary decision-makers in your community and find out more about other Rotary programs for young people.

INQUIRIES

Please find your high school and the Rotary Club that sponsors your school at www.ryla5340.org. For additional information, please contact the RYLA Registrar at ryla5340.regis@gmail.com.

HOW TO APPLY FOR RYLA

All RYLA participants are selected and sponsored by their local Rotary club. Don't miss the chance to participate in this exciting and rewarding program. **You MUST apply online as follows.**

1. Write a brief essay about your best and worst leadership experience. Go to www.ryla5340.org, click the student link, click the Student Application link, fill out the required "Student Information" fields, attach your essay file, and click "Submit" to email your pre-selection information to the RYLA Registrar.
2. Print out the entire form that appears after you submit your online information, fill in all additional information, and get all required signatures.
3. Print your brief essay and attach the printed copy to your completed Student Application Form.
4. Submit the application to your local Rotary Club or school contact.
5. Participate in the interview and selection process.
6. Applicants will be notified in writing by their local Rotary Club whether they are participants or alternates.