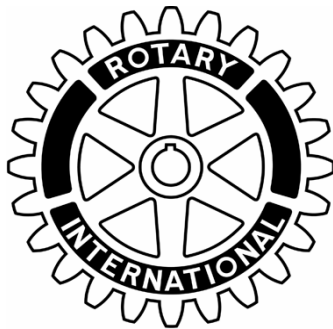
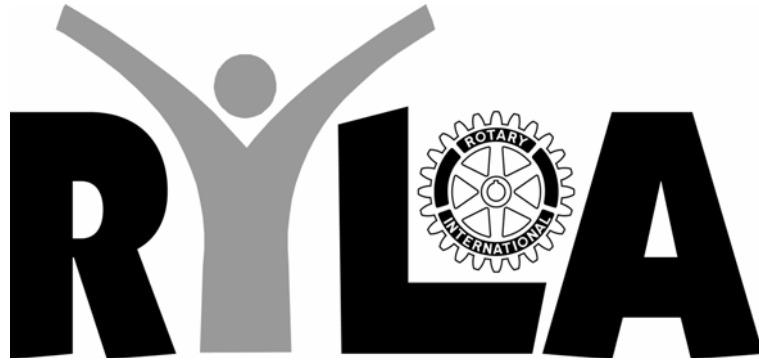


# Rotary International, District 5240



## Rotary Youth Leadership Awards

April 19 – April 22, 2007

Camp Ramah, Ojai, CA

# Table of Contents

Time Table .....	1
Administrative Contacts .....	2
Identifying Appropriate Applicants .....	3
Publicizing Application for RYLA .....	4
Letter to School and Youth Group Leaders .....	5
Sample Press Release .....	6
Applying for RYLA .....	7
Application Review .....	8
Letter Inviting To Interview .....	9
Sample Interview Questions .....	10
Tally Sheet .....	11
Letter of Selection .....	12
Letter of Selection as Alternate .....	13
Rejection Letter .....	14
Candidate Application .....	15



# RYLA 2007 Timetable



- 9/30/06 Payment and reservation forms must be received by **District 5240** along with completed *Applications*, *Camper's Statement*. Send checks to District Co-Chair **Darin Arrasmith**. (See next page.)
- 09/30/06 RYLA Chairs will contact high schools, Interact clubs, Scouting organizations, churches, Junior Achievement, and Community Athletic Programs for prospective RYLA candidates.
- 12/15/06 Prospective candidates will have been identified and candidates will have been sent a RYLA application. Interview dates will have also been set up with candidates.
- 01/15/07 All proposed RYLA candidates will have been interviewed by each club and selections made.
- 01/31/07 All proposed RYLA candidates must have completed the on-line registration forms.
- 01/31/07 RYLA Chairs must send selected applicants their letter of acceptance.
- 04/19/07-04/22/07 RYLA 2007 – Camp Ramah, Ojai.
- 05/1/07-06/30/07 All RYLA participants to be contacted with a date for them to visit your club and talk about their RYLA experience.



# The RYLA 2007 District 5240 Administrative Contacts



RYLA Co-Chair: **Darin Arrasmith** (Rotary Club of Thousand Oaks)

Phone: (805) 379-8626 (Office)                      (805) 750-1838 (Cell)                      (805) 379-8625 (Fax)

Email: [darin@newbridgere.com](mailto:darin@newbridgere.com)

RYLA Co-Chair: **Byron Briley** (Rotary Club of San Luis Obispo Daybreak)

Phone:    (805) 549-0399 (Office)                      (805) 239-0363 (Cell)                      (805) 549-8327 (Fax)

Email: [the\\_brileys@charter.net](mailto:the_brileys@charter.net)

# Identifying Appropriate Applicants

It is important to identify students we sponsor for RYLA who will truly benefit from the experience and will be leaders on their return to school. Students that are selected to attend the ***Rotary Youth Leadership Awards*** should be well prepared for the experience, and be aware of the sponsoring organization.

Policies regarding the eligibility and selection of student participants have evolved over the years.

Student participants should be high school **Sophomores or Juniors**, under the age of eighteen at the time of RYLA.

Participants may **NOT** have attended previous RYLAs.

District 5240 highly recommends that you send your **Interact President-Elect** to RYLA. This practice has greatly grown and improved our District's Interact clubs recently.

The RYLA program has proven to be a driving force in founding new **Interact Clubs**. Participation by Non-Interact members, especially in schools without **Interact Clubs**, will prove beneficial in growing Interact membership.

The RYLA Committee encourages the selection and participation of current and former **Youth Exchange Students**.

Your club has discretion regarding the students they send. If the students do not meet the suggested criteria, they are still welcome, but please be sure to keep as close to our guidelines as possible. Be sure that the student will not be a distraction to the RYLA staff or other students.

Students must agree to a behavior code and can be sent home for inappropriate behavior.

Relatives of Rotarians are permitted to attend RYLA. However, some clubs may not be legally allowed to pay for the tuition from their non-profit accounts. In this case, tuition may be paid by the Rotarian and not their club. Check with your club's treasurer.

## Publicizing Application for RYLA

- Invite the RYLA Chair or member of the RYLA administrative staff to be the program at one of your weekly meetings.
- Provide applications at your regular weekly meeting. Many Rotarians know outstanding young people within the community.
- Send a letter to the principal of all the high schools within your area. Identify schools that other clubs are not approaching, and avoid overlapping efforts. Extend your search for applications to other leaders at local high schools. Seek out the **Band Director**, **Athletic Coaches** and **Club Advisors**.
- Preference may be given to, but should not be limited to, **Interact Club** members. In particular, the **Interact President-Elect**. Clubs should also seek individual applications through **Scouting**, **churches**, **Junior Achievement**, and **Community Athletic Programs**.
- Make a presentation to **Interact** club members. Participation by **Non-Interact** members, especially in schools without **Interact Clubs**, will prove beneficial in growing **Interact** membership. Include the **Interact Advisor** in the planning process and ask for input during one-on-one meetings. DVDs of previous events are available from RYLA chairpersons or Group Reps.
- Students who have attended RYLA the previous year should be contacted to spread the word among the current Sophomores and Juniors about this great program. Provide them with applications to pass on to their friends and acquaintances.
- Submit a **Press Release** to **local newspapers**, **school newspapers** and **cable TV providers**.

# Letter to School and Youth Group Leaders

## **Rotary Youth Leadership Award**

Richard Abbott, District Governor  
Rotary international, District 5240

Dear Mr./Mrs. Principal:

Each year Rotary Clubs around the world provide a program to recognize and develop leadership potential among the young people within the community. We are looking for a few excellent candidates among the high school students in their Sophomore or Junior year to apply for *Rotary International's Youth Leadership Awards* (RYLA).

Local students selected for the awards program will attend an all-expenses paid **Leadership Retreat** with 160 other outstanding high school students from throughout the greater Central Coast Area. The conference will be held at **Camp Ramah** near Ojai, California on April 19-April 22, 2007.

We need your assistance in identifying appropriate candidates for this recognition and participation in our RYLA program. Please distribute one of the enclosed applications to any young person you feel might benefit from participating in RYLA.

Qualifications of successful applicants include **demonstrated leadership potential, public speaking ability and a good academic standing**. We are very interested in receiving applications from both male and female applicants. This will work toward the development of the skills that will enable young men and women to work together to solve problems and achieve common goals now and in their future business and professional lives.

For information please call \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_

# Sample Press Release

## **Rotary Youth Leadership Award**

Richard Abbott, District Governor

Rotary international, District 5240

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Wanted – Future Leaders. Successful applicants must be well organized and demonstrate good listening and problem solving skills. Each year, Rotary Clubs around the world provide a program to recognize and develop leadership potential among the young people within the community. High school Sophomores and Juniors are encouraged to apply for Rotary International’s Youth Leadership Awards retreat(RYLA).

Local students selected for the awards program will attend an all expenses paid Leadership Retreat with 160 other outstanding Sophomore and Junior high school students from throughout greater Central Coast Area. The conference will be held at Camp Ramah near Ojai, California on April 19 - April 22, 2007.

Qualifications of successful applicants include demonstrated leadership potential, public speaking ability and a good academic standing.

For information and applications call: \_\_\_\_\_ At: \_\_\_\_\_



# Applying for RYLA

Requirements for the privilege of attending RYLA include:

- Be a high school Sophomore or Junior, **who will not turn 18 before April 19, 2007.**
- May **NOT** have attended RYLA previously.
- Have demonstrated leadership experience and/or potential as shown by active participation in school or community youth groups.
- Be of high moral character.
- Be cooperative and willing to participate at RYLA as a member of a group.
- Be well informed about current events.
- Possess some ability in public speaking.
- Good academic standing.

## **What, When, Where and How of RYLA**

**What:** Four day Youth Leadership Retreat

**When:** April 19 - April 22, 2007

**Where:** Camp Ramah, Ojai, California.

**How:** All expenses & transportation paid by the sponsoring Rotary club.

You are invited to apply for this award by completing the attached application.

Return them to the Rotary Club of \_\_\_\_\_

Return them by **December 1, 2006** to the sponsoring Rotary Club RYLA Chairperson.

# Application Review

The process of reviewing Applications is as Follows:

- The Committee reviews applications and determines who would be interviewed.
- Unless there is an excessive number of applicants, consideration should be given to interview all students. There is a benefit and learning experience for the students who go through this process.
- All the Club RYLA Committee Members should review the twenty sample questions and prioritize the ones that each wants to ask. The whole committee then works on the final selection process of questions that will be asked of every student.
- Arrange for an appropriate time and place for conducting the RYLA interviews.
- Send a letter to each student notifying them of the day, time and location of interviews.
- Allow 10- 15 minutes for each interview. Each student should be asked the same questions. Each interviewer grades the responses and some quality attribute.
- The **School Team Leaders** and the **Committee Chair** then meet and determine an overall selection and prioritization of the applicants.
- Send letters to students who were selected for participation.
- Send letters to students who were selected as alternates for participation.
- Send letters to students who were rejected for participation.
- Send letters to each school notifying the Principal and school contacts of the results of the selection process. Invite these people to a Rotary meeting.

# Letter Inviting to Interview

## **Rotary Youth Leadership Award**

Richard Abbott, District Governor

Rotary international, District 5240

Name

Address

Street

Re: Rotary Youth Leadership Conference - RYLA

Dear \_\_\_\_\_

Congratulations, you have been selected as a finalist in the RYLA selection process.

This will consist of an oral interview with representatives of the \_\_\_\_\_ Rotary Club. The interviews will be similar to those held for scholarships or the academic decathlon and will be short - so be prepared.

Your interview will take place between \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_  
**2006** at \_\_\_\_\_.

Please confirm your appointment with \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_.

Best of luck at your interview,

\_\_\_\_\_

Club RYLA Chairperson

# Sample Interview Questions

1. What are your plans for next year?
2. Five years from now?
3. Twenty years from now?
4. Who has been the most important person in your life?
5. If you were trying to convince a new company to relocate in your town, what are three positive features of the community you would stress?
6. What are your three most important values?
7. If you could make one change affecting your High School, what would it be?
8. Outside your family and friends, whom do you most respect?
9. What is the most important issue presently facing the President and Congress?
10. What is the last book you read for pleasure?
11. What are your feelings about the grade requirements for participation in extra-curricular activities?
12. Outside of your classes, what activity has been the most important in terms of your personal growth?
13. What makes a good leader?
14. Why are ethics important in leadership?
15. Who do you know that you feel is an outstanding leader and why?
16. If five candidates - including you - are equally qualified, why should you be the one selected for RYLA?
17. If you had the power and money to do something good for mankind, what would it be and why?
18. As a teenager what do you see as your role in the community? (e.g. setting examples, community service)
19. Name your hero or role model you look up to, and tell us why he/she is important to you.
20. Name one thing that you have done that made you feel good about yourself.

# Tally Sheet

## Overall Scores:

Interviewer Name \_\_\_\_\_ Score \_\_\_\_\_

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## Final Score: Ranking

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## Recommendation/Comments:

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# Letters of Selection

## Rotary Youth Leadership Award

Richard Abbott, District Governor

Rotary international, District 5240

Name

Address

Street

Re: Rotary Youth Leadership Conference - RYLA

Dear \_\_\_\_\_

This letter is to inform you that you have been selected to attend the *Rotary Youth Leadership Awards* Retreat (RYLA) April 19 - April 22, 2007 at Camp Ramah, near Ojai, California.

The Rotary Club of \_\_\_\_\_ is the club that is sponsoring you and paying your tuition. We will be inviting you and your fellow "RYLA-rians" to a club meeting in the near future (tentatively set for \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ ) at the \_\_\_\_\_ . Further details of RYLA will be sent to you at a later date.

You and your parent(s) are invited to attend a meeting on \_\_\_\_\_ 2007 at \_\_\_\_\_ at the \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ .

This will include the participants sponsored by the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ Rotary Clubs, will provide more information and allow you to ask questions in order to gain a clearer understanding of the events of the RYLA Experience.

Congratulations! We hope that you will make the most of this learning opportunity. We want to thank you for participating in the application process.

Sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_  
RYLA Chair

# Letter of Selection as Alternate

## Rotary Youth Leadership Award

Richard Abbott, District Governor

Rotary international, District 5240

Name

Address

Street

Re: Rotary Youth Leadership Retreat - R.Y.L.A.

Dear \_\_\_\_\_

The quality of applicants to attend this year's *Rotary Youth Leadership Awards* Retreat (RYLA) was truly outstanding. You have been selected as a reserve candidate i.e. if someone is unable to attend you will take their place. Be aware that this may be on short notice, close to or on April 15; the dates of the conference are April 19 - April 22, 2007 at Camp Ramah, near Ojai, California.

The Rotary Club of \_\_\_\_\_ is the club that is sponsoring you and paying your tuition. We will be inviting you and your fellow "RYLA-rians" to a club meeting in the near future (tentatively set for \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_) at the \_\_\_\_\_ . Further details of RYLA will be sent to you at a later date.

You and your parent(s) are invited to attend a meeting on \_\_\_\_\_ 2007 at \_\_\_\_\_ at the \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ .

This will include the participants sponsored by the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ Rotary Clubs, will provide more information and allow you to ask questions in order to gain a clearer understanding of the events of the RYLA Retreat.

Congratulations! We hope that you will make the most of this learning opportunity. We want to thank you for participating in the application process.

Sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_  
RYLA Chairperson

# Rejection Letter

## **Rotary Youth Leadership Award**

Richard Abbott, District Governor

Rotary international, District 5240

Name

Address

Street

Re: Rotary Youth Leadership Conference - RYLA

Dear \_\_\_\_\_

The quality of applicants to attend this year's *Rotary Youth Leadership Awards* Retreat (RYLA) was truly outstanding. Unfortunately, we must inform you that your application was not accepted.

We thank you very much for taking the time and effort to present your application and for participating in the interview. No one achieves everything that they apply for, and we encourage you to continue to pursue the various other opportunities, which will undoubtedly become available to you.

We wish you every success in the future.

Sincerely,

\_\_\_\_\_  
RYLA Chair



# Candidate Application

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone : \_\_\_\_\_  
(With Area Code)

School: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade Point Average: \_\_\_\_\_

## Questions

1. What school activities do you participate in?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. What non-school activities are you involved in?

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Have you ever received any awards? (If so, what awards?)

\_\_\_\_\_

4. What career plans do you have?

\_\_\_\_\_

5. What leadership positions have you held or will hold?

\_\_\_\_\_

6. If I were to talk to your teachers, would they know you? What would they say about you?

\_\_\_\_\_

7. If I were to talk to your fellow classmates, would they know you? What would they say about you?

\_\_\_\_\_

8. Of all the things you have done this year, what has been the most rewarding to you?

\_\_\_\_\_

9. Have you ever traveled abroad, other than for vacation? Is so, where and why?

\_\_\_\_\_

10. Why would you like to attend RYLA?

\_\_\_\_\_

Please return this questionnaire to your local Rotary Club at:

\_\_\_\_\_