

RYLA 2024

**JULY
7TH-11TH**

ROTARY YOUTH LEADERSHIP AWARDS

What is RYLA?

A five day overnight leadership conference for sophomores in highschool sponsored by your local Rotary Clubs and held at Mount Saint Mary College.



What happens at RYLA?

You develop your skills as a leader through fun filled activities, events, projects, and presentations from special guests!

At RYLA you'll gain new confidence, skills, and friends in a positive environment like no other.

Many RYLA alum have credited the conference with their success in college and in their careers.

Quotes from past attendees

"RYLA showed me the value of being more outgoing and comfortable with my personality"

"RYLA was a life changing experience for me, and it proved to be a transformative experience that has shaped my perspective not just on leadership, but on life itself"



INTERESTED IN APPLYING?

Reach out to your Guidance Counselor or Local Rotary Club for an application. Not sure how to get in contact? Email ryla7210@gmail.com for your Rotary Club contact!



@RYLA7210

RYLA 2024

JULY 11-17TH

ROTARY YOUTH LEADERSHIP AWARD, CONFERENCE

RYLA is a five-day overnight leadership conference for sophomores in High School sponsored by your local Rotary Clubs and held at Mount Saint Mary College.

WHAT HAPPENS AT RYLA?

You develop your leadership skills through fun-filled activities, events, projects, and presentations from special guests! At RYLA you'll gain new confidence, skills, and friends in a positive environment like no other.



GOALS

- 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 lasting friendships



APPLY

Reach out to your Guidance Counselor, or Local Rotary Club for an application!

NOT SURE HOW TO GET IN CONTACT?

Email ryla7210@gmail.com to ask for your Rotary Club's contact!



FIND US ON INSTAGRAM



@RYLA7210

WHAT TO EXPECT?

LEARNING OPPORTUNITES

At RYLA we have activities geared to help students be more prepared for college, develop team-building and interpersonal skills, grow outside their comfort zones, and become more confident and positive leaders.

MEET NEW PEOPLE

RYLA hosts students from throughout the Hudson Valley!

EXPERIENCE A COLLEGE CAMPUS

RYLA takes place at the picturesque Mount Saint Mary College, where participants will stay in dormitories, eat at the dining hall, and use college facilities.

This invaluable experience provides students with a unique opportunity to gain insight into college life, allowing them to make informed decisions about their future academic pursuits after graduation.

TYPES OF ACTIVITIES

- Group Projects
- Fun Team Building Events
- Inspirational Speakers
- Educational Panels
- Interactive Presentations



"RYLA was a life-changing experience for me, and it proved to be a transformative experience that has shaped my perspective not just on leadership, but on life itself"

WHY RYLA?



RYLA'S IMPACT

Students walk away with countless memories and valuable knowledge - many RYLA alumni have credited the conference with their success in college and their careers. RYLA continues to inspire students to shape their communities year after year.

RYLA'S ACCESSIBILITY

Thanks to the generosity of Rotary, attendance at RYLA is completely free for students!

RYLA APPLICATION (1 of 4)

RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards) Conference

Sponsored by Rotary District 7210: "The Heart of the Hudson Valley"
(Columbia, Dutchess, Greene, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Sullivan, & Ulster Counties)

Sunday, July 7, 2024 – Thursday, July 11, 2024

Mount Saint Mary College, Newburgh, NY

****FOR SOPHOMORE STUDENTS ONLY****

Pearl River Rotary invites you to apply to become a scholarship
(Name of sponsoring club)

participant in this year's RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards) Conference.

Sponsoring Club's Contact Information:

Rotarian: Niels Dua

Phone Numbers: 860 997-4957 (h) _____ (w)

Email Address: NMDUA@AOL.COM

Please return your completed application, with all requested attachments, to your Rotarian
contact (above) no later than:

MAY 01, 2024
(RYLA Application Due Date)

Your completed RYLA application must include...

- RYLA Application - Page 4 of 4
- Personal Statement (See "Required Attachments")
- 2 Letters of Recommendation (See "Required Attachments")
- High School Transcript, to date (See "Required Attachments")

RYLA APPLICATION (2 of 4)**WHAT IS THE ROTARY YOUTH LEADERSHIP AWARDS CONFERENCE?**

The Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) Conference is a program for high school sophomores who have shown leadership potential in their home, school, and community. The conference is designed to introduce participants to thoughts and ideas that will strengthen and develop their leadership skills. At RYLA, conferees are encouraged to share their personal experiences and perspectives in powerful conversations about various topics, providing insightful learning opportunities. It also provides an environment where participants feel comfortable discussing their thoughts and ideas with other students from the Mid-Hudson Valley. The conference lasts five days and is held on the campus of Mount Saint Mary College in Newburgh, NY.

THE PROGRAM INCLUDES...

Personal assessment	Goal setting	Delegating	Time management
Communication and listening	Public speaking	Problem solving	Team building
Compromising	Setting priorities	Interpersonal relationships	Brainstorming

RYLA ACTIVITIES

Group Projects: Each student will be a member of a group during the conference. Each group works on a project that provides hands-on experience with planning, implementation, and evaluation.

Small Group Activities: Discussion-based activities are held to share and explore notions of leadership.

Social Time: There is space in the program for organized athletic activities, dancing, and developing friendships with other participants.

IN ORDER TO ATTEND RYLA, THE APPLICANT MUST...

1. Be a sophomore ready to enter their junior year in the fall
2. Have shown demonstrated leadership potential in school and the community
3. Demonstrate the qualities of a good student
4. Submit a completed application
5. Be selected and sponsored by your local Rotary Club

RYLA APPLICATION (Page 3 of 4)

COVID-19 ADDENDUM (UPDATED 1/2024)

At the time of the release of this application, the District RYLA Committee is planning to host an in-person RYLA 2024 Conference. While we are optimistic, please note that our planning will be consistent with current health and safety regulations; in other words, should it be deemed unsafe for the conference to proceed as planned, we will alter our plans accordingly.

Should it be deemed unsafe to host an overnight, in-person conference come the beginning of July, our committee is prepared to host a modified in-person conference. Rotary clubs and selected conference attendees alike will be kept updated regarding any changes to the conference format. Information will be disseminated via your student email address, should you be selected to attend RYLA 2024.

Currently, it is not required that participants be vaccinated or boosted against COVID-19 for the RYLA 2024 conference. This decision is aligned with current state and local guidelines and the Mount Saint Mary College COVID-19 policy, found [here](#). In order to protect the health of our staff and conferees, vaccines and boosters are *strongly recommended* as a precaution. We also encourage participants to test before attending and participants may mask at their discretion, though neither will be required.

Should any attendees begin to exhibit signs of COVID-19 during the conference, they will be required to leave the conference and may return with proof of a negative COVID-19 test with no prevailing symptoms. The need for additional students to leave the RYLA conference based upon exposure will be made at the discretion of the RYLA Committee on an as-needed basis.

RYLA APPLICATION (Page 4 of 4)
Rotary Club Information

Sponsoring Rotary Club:	
Rotarian Contact	
Home contact phone #:	
Work contact phone #:	

Student Last Name, First Name: _____

Name of High School: _____

Home Address: _____

Student Cell Phone #: _____

Student Email Address (Note: Please use a NON-school affiliated email address):

This student, _____, has my permission to apply to and be a participant in this conference. I understand that acceptance to be a participant in the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards Conference obligates the student to attend the entire conference. I also understand that participation may be terminated for inappropriate behavior, violation of conference rules and regulations, or for possession of an unpermitted property.

(Printed name of parent/guardian)_____
(Signature of parent/guardian)_____
(Home phone number of parent/guardian)_____
(Cell phone number of parent/guardian)_____
(Work phone number of parent/guardian)**REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS**

1. Briefly describe your (1) participation and (2) leadership experiences in your extracurricular activities, service, and employment, as well as the reasons why you are interested in attending this conference.
2. Submit **one** letter of recommendation from a teacher, administrator, or community leader who can comment on your accomplishments and/or potential.
3. Submit a copy of your school transcript indicating your coursework and grades for freshman and sophomore year, to date.

Your Next Steps...

Once you've submitted your application, if you are selected the registration timeline is as follows:

- You will receive an email from ryla7210@gmail.com about your selection and required registration materials. Please complete these materials by their deadlines, or you may lose your seat at RYLA 2024:
 - ◆ The completion of a Health Form (this form must be signed by your health provider, which can include your school nurse. An updated physical within 1 year of the conference may be used in lieu of the Health Form). **[Due 6/15/2024]**
 - ◆ The completion of the Registration Form where you will provide your group preference and parent/guardian permission. **[Due 6/1/2024]**
- A couple weeks after you complete the Registration Form, you will receive a call from your Junior Counselor who will outline what to expect at the conference, as well as items to bring and the details of your group. Your Junior Counselor may answer any questions you and your parents/guardians have and will remain in contact with you leading up to the conference.