



“Training Youth for Leadership Tomorrow”

Scan or send a picture of this completed form ASAP to:

[RYLA6780TN@gmail.com](mailto:RYLA6780TN@gmail.com)

## **Rotary Youth Leadership Awards 2023**

### **Club Acknowledgement & Commitment Form**

This form acknowledges the Rotary Club of \_\_\_\_\_, has received their Rotary Club’s **RYLA 2023** Informational Packet.

Included Information in **Club Documents** Attachment:

- \* **2023 RYLA Club Acknowledgement & Commitment Form** (this form)
- \* **2023 RYLA Club Announcement**
- \* **2023 RYLA Club Coordinator’s Planning and Student Selection Guide** (3 pages)
- \* **2023 RYLA Club to Student Invitation Letter**

Included Information in **Student Documents** Attachment:

- \* **2023 RYLA Student Registration Form**
- \* **2023 RYLA Student Rules and Guidelines**
- \* **2023 RYLA Student Waiver**

Each document is included in this email for your convenience. Please make additional copies as needed. Copies are also available on the District web site:

<https://www.rotarydistrict6780.com/RYLA.php>

***Please return this completed form by May 31<sup>st</sup> 2023 latest. We need to know the number of student participants your club will be sponsoring. Maximum student participants 180.***

**Club RYLA Project Coordinator:**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone# \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Number of Student Participants your Club will be sponsoring:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature of Club President:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**You may include payment for your students with this form or mail separately to: Rotary – RYLA, PO Box 2808, Crossville TN 38557. \$150 per student if received prior to September 1, 2023. \$175 per student if received after September 1, 2023.**



“Training Youth for Leadership Tomorrow”

## Announcement to 6780 Club Presidents and RYLA Coordinators!

The Rotary Clubs of District 6780 will again show our commitment to the youth of District 6780 by hosting RYLA.

RYLA Chair: Holly Hanson 815-985-3652 cell

RYLA registration forms and all other applicable materials are available at:

<http://www.rotarydistrict6780.com/RYLA.php>

Be sure to “Like” the RYLA 6780 Facebook Page!

### RYLA 2023 District Committee:

Holly Hanson, Crossville – Chair  
Jack Williams, Fairfield Glade – Vice Chair  
Paul Beal, Crossville – Treasurer  
Scot Shanks, Crossville – Registration Coordinator  
Deb Birdsall, Fairfield Glade – Website and Social Media  
Charlotte Goodwin, Crossville – Certificate Coordinator  
Pepe Perron, Crossville – Advisor & Event Coordination

RYLA 2023 will be held

Saturday, Sept. 23, 2023 at

Camp Nakanawa

1084 Camp Nakanawa Road

Crossville, TN 38571

Proprietors: Rotarian Pepe & Ann Perron

(931) 260-8244 or (931) 260-6061

**REGISTRATION & BREAKFAST**

**7:00am to 8:00am CT**

**EVENT BEGINS PROMPTLY AT 8:10AM!**

RYLA is Rotary's leadership training program for young people. RYLA emphasizes leadership, citizenship, and personal growth in a one-day, hands-on, leadership skills development program open to *outstanding High School Juniors (Fall 2023)* with demonstrated leadership qualities, selected by your Club from High Schools in your community. Students do NOT need to be Interact Club members, but must be outstanding student leaders.

### RYLA leadership enhancement activities include:

Motivational speakers and leadership skills development exercises lead by **ADVENTUREWORKS**. *ADVENTUREWORKS offers a wide variety of fun exercises. These exercises include the climbing wall, giant tree swing, zip line and low rope activities. Student rave about their day at RYLA and this year should be bigger and better than ever!* **Note: Parents and Rotarians may not participate in ADVENTUREWORKS led activities.**

- **COST: \$150.00 per student** – Registration is open to *High School Juniors (Fall 2023)* for RYLA 2023. Rotary clubs are encouraged to send **4 to 12 students** to this RYLA leadership development experience. *We have a limit of 180 students total so register early!* All meals, snacks, drinks, and workshop materials are included in registration fee. **Late registrations - \$175.00 per student** late registration fee for registrations received September 1, 2023 and later. We need time to prepare the student materials!
- **TRANSPORTATION:** Each Sponsoring Rotary club is responsible for arranging the transportation for their attendees. **ALL ATTENDEES AND RYLA CHAIRPERSONS MUST BE PREPARED TO STAY UNTIL THE RYLA EVENT CONCLUDES!** Those providing transportation for attendees MUST provide contact information to the RYLA Committee prior to their departure and make the RYLA Committee aware of whether they or someone else will be responsible for picking up students at the conclusion of event. If another Rotarian will be responsible for the return trip, that Rotarian's contact information MUST also be provided to the Committee. **NO STUDENT MAY LEAVE RYLA WITHOUT CHECKING OUT!**

- **DRESS:** CASUAL – SHORTS, JEANS, KHAKIS, **TENNIS SHOES**. Layering would be appropriate to accommodate “unpredictable” weather conditions, as well as an *extra outfit* and *shoes* for “possible” unforeseen mishaps. **TENNIS SHOES** are required for climbing wall.

**REGISTER EARLY!** Selecting your students **prior** to the end of the school year (Juniors Fall 2023) will ensure every attendee is fully prepared for this unforgettable leadership experience. It will also allow the **RYLA** planning committee to prepare attendee materials and name tags.

To avoid a **\$25 late registration fee**, registrations and payment must be received before **September 1, 2023**.  
**No Exceptions!**

Mail student documents and payment to **ROTARY - RYLA, PO Box 2808, Crossville TN 38557**

*Please let us know who your Club RYLA Coordinator will be via the RYLA Club Acknowledgement & Commitment Form as well as how many RYLA students your Club anticipates sponsoring.*



**“Training Youth for Leadership Tomorrow”  
Club Coordinator’s Planning and  
Student Selection Guide**

The RYLA program began in Australia in 1959. Each year thousands of young people across the world are selected to attend Rotary-sponsored leadership camps or seminars. These RYLA programs offer challenging discussions, inspirational addresses, leadership training and social activities designed to enhance personal development and good citizenship.

This District-wide RYLA program requires coordination at all levels of District leadership, as well as the leadership of the participating Rotary clubs. Both the district and the local Rotary club must work together in order to provide a meaningful program for the participants.

***Your role as RYLA COORDINATOR is to act as the central point of communication and coordination, and to ensure timely action by your Club in support of the RYLA program.***

*There are at least four distinct parties which require your attention and coordination skills, they include:*

- 1. Your Club Leadership.** You will need to work with your club leadership to determine the number of participants your Club’s budget will accommodate. Determine the degree to which the Club Board/Officers may wish to oversee the participant selection process. Ensure that registration forms are completed and that associated fees are paid in a timely manner. Arrange for transporting the selected student participants to and from RYLA. **Students are not allowed to drive to RYLA themselves.**
- 2. Your local High School(s).** You will need to develop a working relationship with the appropriate High School Counselors in order to identify the best candidates for your Club to sponsor. The Counselors need to fully understand the selection criteria and be given maximum lead-time to ensure a smooth and timely selection process. School counselors know the best candidates to participate in RYLA. *A personal one-on-one meeting with the school counselors is critical.*
- 3. The District RYLA Committee.** A District Committee member, who will serve as your contact to the Committee, will contact you (assuming your Club has submitted their RYLA Acknowledgement Form telling us who you are and how to contact you). The Committee member’s role is to assist your planning should you have questions or concerns. **Your biggest challenge** in dealing with the Committee is ensuring complete and timely submission of **ALL** your participant registration forms.
- 4. The Participants.** Your direct communication and coordination with the selected students is your most important responsibility. You **MUST** include your name, email and phone number in the spaces provided on the “Dear Student” invitational letter. **The student and his or her family must know who you are, how to contact you, and be made to feel comfortable**

**RYLA 2023 District Committee:**

Holly Hanson, Crossville – Chair  
Jack Williams, Fairfield Glade – Vice Chair  
Paul Beal, Crossville – Treasurer  
Scot Shanks, Crossville – Registration Coordinator  
Deb Birdsall, Fairfield Glade – Website and Social Media  
Charlotte Goodwin, Crossville – Certificate Coordinator  
Pepe Perron, Crossville – Advisor & Event Coordination

**MAIL COMPLETED FORMS WITH  
PAYMENT TO:**

**ROTARY - RYLA  
PO Box 2808  
Crossville TN 38557**

Questions? Email: [RYLA6780TN@gmail.com](mailto:RYLA6780TN@gmail.com)

**about the participation of their student.** They should understand the nature of the RYLA program and that your Rotary Club is sponsoring them. They should also be made to feel honored to have been selected. You should arrange and communicate the transportation details as well as providing details regarding your Clubs recognition program following RYLA. The person responsible for the student transportation **should stay at camp Nakanawa for the entire program.** If the Rotarian cannot stay on site for the entire day, the RYLA Committee **MUST** be furnished with the Rotarian driver's contact number, or the information of another Rotarian sharing the transportation responsibility. Parents and Rotarians may view Adventureworks activities, but **may not** participate in them.

**Selection Criteria:** There is no limit to the number of participants your Club may sponsor, but no more than 6 students per *High School* are recommended. The maximum number of RYLA program participants is 180. RYLA participants should be high school juniors (Fall 2023) who have demonstrated leadership potential and natural leadership abilities. Their leadership skill should have manifested itself in a variety of venues – school academics, athletics, clubs, community service, church, etc. All high school juniors (Fall 2023) are eligible. Selected students may be members of the high school Interact Club, but they do NOT have to be. If your Club is sponsoring two or more participants, then it is desirable that **both sexes and a variety of backgrounds** be included.

**Selection Process:** If possible, it is best to begin the process of identifying your projected RYLA participants in May just prior to the summer break. This is because in the fall, as school is starting, the high school counselors are likely to be extremely busy and perhaps do not yet know the students who meet the selection criteria. Meeting with the high school counselors in the spring is the most practical way to start the process. Discuss with the counselors the nature, purpose, and selection criteria of RYLA. Then provide the counselors with several copies of the student invitation letter, and ask that they distribute them to potential candidates. It is best to provide several more letters than you anticipate sponsoring, as not all invited students will be able to attend.

Be sure you have provided your Club name, as well as your name, email and phone number in the spaces provided on the student invitation letters, as it is critical that the invited students contact you. ***This is important because for security/privacy reasons most schools cannot release student contact information directly to you. The student must make the first contact with you.*** Ask the counselor(s) to give the student invitation letter to students they believe meet your club's RYLA selection criteria, and to advise the students to make contact with you via phone or e-mail.

Once the potential candidates make contact with you,

1. Determine their interest in participating in the upcoming RYLA
2. Get their contact information (name, address, phone number, and e-mail address) and,
3. Send them a REGISTRATION PACKET with the necessary registration forms (*Student Registration Form, RYLA Rules and Guidelines, and Student Waiver*).

Since it may still be a few months prior to RYLA you may want to keep this contact informal, but with an agreement that you will get back to them with more details and the required registration forms in late summer or early fall. As RYLA approaches, reach back out to students to confirm their attendance.

**All the necessary documents and forms for RYLA are available for download at <http://www.rotarydistrict6780.com/RYLA.php>**

Should it become necessary to start the selection process as school starts in the fall, the above steps should be the same; but on a more compressed time-line. It is not recommended that you completely turn over the selection and registration process to the school. You and your Club should be actively involved in the selection process.

You must talk with each student and **have all their paperwork sent to you** for review, approval and submission to the RYLA Committee. This is a Rotary program, NOT a school program! Our Rotary priorities and timelines are NOT the schools' priorities and timelines.

**Timeline:** The following dates are critical milestones in the **RYLA** planning process:

- |                               |   |
|-------------------------------|---|
| • PETS                        | RYLA date and details announced   |
| • April                       | RYLA issues materials to Clubs  |
| • April-May<br>participants   | Club RYLA Chair meets with high school to identify potential                    |
| • By May 31<br><i>Payment</i> | Club returns <i>Club Acknowledgement &amp; Commitment Form &amp;</i>            |
| • July 1                      | Invoice sent to Clubs who have not sent in payment                              |
| • August 31                   | Last day to receive payment at the regular rate                                 |
| • September 1                 | Late payment rate goes into effect  |
| • September 11                | <b>Registration ends.</b> All registration forms and fees are due               |
| • <b>September 23, 2023</b>   | <b>RYLA</b> at <b>Camp Nakanawa</b> , 1084 Camp Nakanawa Road,<br>Crossville TN |
| • October<br>presidents       | RYLA Certificates for each student will be e-mailed to club                     |
| • Oct/Nov<br>meeting          | RYLA Recognition Certificates presented to students at a Club                   |

*Note: Registrations and payment must be received prior to September 1 to avoid late registration rate*

**Administrative Process:** You may use a school to administer the student registration process, or the RYLA chairperson may administer the registration process themselves. The three (3) registration forms (*Student Registration / Student Rules and Guidelines / Student Waiver*) must be sent to the student, and then received, reviewed, approved, and mailed to RYLA by your Club along with the appropriate payment.

When you receive the completed forms, **ensure they are signed by the student, parents, and your club president!** Complete the *Sponsoring Club/RYLA Student Registration*

**Submission Form** and send it with the three registration forms (described above) for each of your participants.

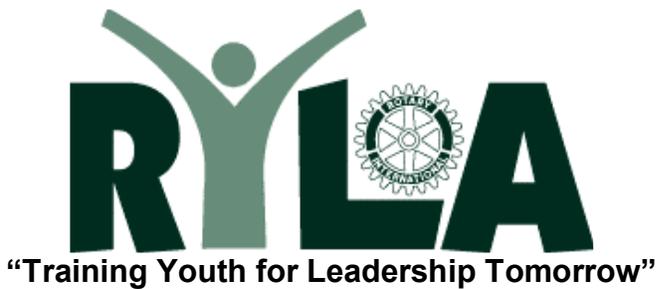
Please include a single check as payment (**\$150** per student, or **\$175 per student if club submission form is not received by September 1<sup>st</sup>**) for the group. If you have students that have not returned their paperwork, but they plan to attend, include the payment for their spots in your check. Their late paperwork must be received by **September 11th**. Tardy registrations should be sent individually via email as soon as possible to [RYLA6780TN@gmail.com](mailto:RYLA6780TN@gmail.com)

**Club Responsibilities:** Your Club is responsible for:

1. Selecting the students they sponsor.
2. Ensuring the students fully understand the goals, objectives, and rules of RYLA
3. Submitting the completed registration forms in a timely manner
4. Paying the fees associated with sponsoring students
5. Providing Rotary - supervised transportation to and from RYLA. ***Do not permit students to self-drive to RYLA!***
6. Presenting RYLA Recognition Certificates at a club meeting to the students your Club sponsored. Certificates will be emailed to the Club contact. You will print the certificates. Some clubs choose to buy inexpensive frames and present framed certificates to students.

**\*\* NOTE \*\*** Don't forget to complete your portion of the Student Invitation letter and the Student Registration form or the students will not know how to return their documents to you!

**Need Help/ Have Questions? Email:** [RYLA6780TN@gmail.com](mailto:RYLA6780TN@gmail.com)

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Dear Student,

Congratulations! You have been selected by the \_\_\_\_\_ Rotary Club to participate in Rotary District 6780's Annual **RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards)** program on **Saturday, September 23, 2023**. District 6780 is comprised of 78 Rotary Clubs, which encompasses most of Eastern Tennessee.

You will be joined in this unique hands-on leadership experience by high school juniors (Fall 2023) from throughout our District who have also demonstrated leadership qualities and are being sponsored by one of the District Rotary Clubs. This one-day program is designed to demonstrate Rotary's respect and concern for youth, and to provide an effective training experience for selected young leaders and potential leaders. The program encourages leadership of youth by youth and publicly recognizes young people who are rendering service to their communities.

RYLA will be held at CAMP NAKANAWA, located at 1084 Camp Nakanawa Road, Crossville, TN 38571 phone (931) 260-8244 or (931) 260-6061. The proprietors are Crossville Rotarian Pepe Perron and his wife, Ann. Your registration fees and transportation to and from the event are the responsibility of your sponsoring Rotary Club. *Students are not allowed to drive themselves to RYLA.*

**Sign-in and Breakfast will be between 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. Central Time. The leadership program will begin promptly at 8:10 a.m., and end at approximately 5:00 p.m. Central Time. Breakfast and lunch are provided as part of the student registration fee.**

### **RYLA - A ONE-DAY LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE**

Rotary leaders and other speakers will introduce leadership concepts. Other leadership activities include indoor and outdoor challenges provided by **ADVENTUREWORKS** including team building interactive assignments incorporating the use of a "trust" course, climbing walls, giant swing and zip line.

**Non-Perishable Food Items:** Every RYLA student is asked to bring **no less than four (4) items of non-perishable food** which will be donated to local food banks dedicated to feeding the hungry.

**Transportation:** Your sponsoring Rotary Club will arrange for your transportation. **Attendees will not be dismissed from the leadership seminar until it has concluded at approximately 5:00 p.m. Central Time. Please plan accordingly. Students may NOT leave during the program unless released by the RYLA chair!**

**Dress:** CASUAL – SHORTS, JEANS, KHAKIS, **TENNIS SHOES**. Layering would be appropriate to accommodate "unpredictable" weather conditions, as well as an **extra outfit and shoes** for "possible" unforeseen weather or mishaps. *Tennis Shoes are required for the climbing wall.*

**Web Site:** Please visit our District's web site at <http://www.rotarydistrict6780.com/RYLA.php> to learn more about RYLA. **You may also "LIKE" the RYLA 6780 Facebook Page.**

***If you are able to participate in this exciting and fun program, please contact me immediately at:***

Rotarian Cell # \_\_\_\_\_

email: \_\_\_\_\_

I will provide you with the necessary registration forms and more detailed information about RYLA.

Sincerely,

Your Rotary Club RYLA Coordinator \_\_\_\_\_