

**Interact** is a service club for youth ages 12 to 18 who want to connect with other young people and have fun while serving their communities and learning about the world.

The students lead the club to organize two projects every year, one local and one international. They learn to leverage mentors and develop leadership skills.

## Steps to get started

- ✓ Committed Rotary Club sponsor & advisor
- ✓ School liaison advisor and administration commitment
- ✓ Align with school club policies
- ✓ Determine Age range (between 12-18)
- ✓ Recruit members
- ✓ Elect officers
- ✓ Comply with youth protection/data policies
- ✓ Complete Interact Club Certification Form

**The Erie Rotary Club will add a budget line item to support the club. The students will do fundraisers to support the projects.**

# What's in it for students?

Civic Leadership & Fundraising

Global Interaction

Scholarships & Grants

Opportunity for Leadership Camp

Exposure to occupations that serve society

Preparation for a lifetime of service and support from Rotary

When a school advisor works with our Rotary Club to leverage Rotary resources we can expand these kid's world.



*Interact is an international organization of service that fosters leadership and responsible citizenship, and promotes international understanding and peace.*

# Begin with...

1. A Rotary club sponsor advisor
2. School advisor to create the club foundations aligned with school policies.
3. Students committed to be founders of the club.
4. Projects aligned with Rotary Areas of Focus

## Rotary Club & School Advisors

- Mentor & Motivate
- Facilitate & Protect
- Connect & Coach

## Rotary District -Youth Services Chair

- Interact Training
- Interact Conferences
- Global connections

## Lessons from other interact clubs



# You are never alone



Interact clubs are in 159 countries (half a million Interactors).  
Our Rotary District has 60 Rotary clubs and 57 Interact Clubs



## **Interact clubs nearby**

**Valley High (Gilcrest & Platteville)**

**Boulder High**

**Fairview High (Boulder)**

**Broomfield High**

**Legacy High (Broomfield)**

**Peak to Peak (Lafayette)**

**Longmont High**

**Niwot High**

**Crowne Point Academy (Westminster)**

# Vital Components of a club



**First and foremost**, Interact is not a "top down" style organization model. When the school supports the club, the students lead with the help of advisors and mentors.

**To be successful**, it all begins with Spark plugs who are fired up with the enthusiasm and empowerment to make a difference (e.g. Students of the Month) who will be the founders and the first officers of the club.

**To be viable**, there must be fun, meaningful activities and service projects which develop all the Interactors' leadership skills, marketing skills, negotiation skills, presentation skills, cooperation/team building skills and pride in the successful planning, implementation, and completion of a project.

**To be sustainable**, the club will develop and implement a successful program to market their club to the body of potential members so that the natural attrition is consistently replenished. Strong succession planning is critical to long term success.

There is a "tipping point" where a club gets enough members that it begins to be seen in the eyes of the student body that it is a viable force and a good place to be seen, generally 15 or more students.

Clubs fail because of a lack of passionate students (spark plugs), a disconnect with the Rotary Club advisor, and a school liaison with minimal support from school administration to help break down barriers.

# Rotary Youth Leadership Awards

<https://rockymountainryla.org/>



RYLA stands for "Rotary Youth Leadership Awards". This camp is for sophomores, juniors, and senior students who would benefit from extra leadership guidance.

Our Rotary club would like to send an Erie student to RYLA next year!

**What:** RYLA Leadership Camp

**Who:** high school sophomores, juniors and seniors

**When:** June each year – 6 action-packed days

**Where:** YMCA of the Rockies

An awesome 6-day leadership camp sponsored by Rotary. Students from Colorado, Wyoming and Western Nebraska will gather to make new friends and learn new leadership skills. Camp of activities that helps students build confidence and leadership skills