

# Rotary District 7210: RYLA 2021

Club President: Please provide the Rotarian who will oversee your club's RYLA 2021 program with this packet. Thank you!

Dear Club RYLA Committee Chair,

With your help, the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) Conference will once again be a great experience for all involved. The District RYLA committee has created this packet so that you may properly:

- Promote the RYLA program in your community
- Interview and select applicants to attend this year's RYLA Conference
- Send selected conferee's information and sponsorship fees to the District RYLA committee in a timely manner

Qualified candidates are high school students finishing their **sophomore or junior year** who demonstrate the potential to benefit from a program designed to nurture and instill confidence in their leadership skills and abilities.

Your club may sponsor a maximum of **TWO** students, at a cost of **\$400 per student**. We also respectfully request that you sponsor only your own students, and refrain from sponsoring students for another club. **Should your club desire to sponsor more than two students, you may request to add up to three students to our RYLA 2021 Waitlist.**

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Please follow the procedures outlined in the enclosed material. If you have questions, please contact RYLA Co-Executive Director, Joshua Jordan, at (845)320-2375 (M-F, from 9AM - 5PM), or [joshjordan321@gmail.com](mailto:joshjordan321@gmail.com).

- Please make copies of this packet right away, especially the application. *Note: Only pages labeled "FOR ALL RYLA APPLICANTS" should be given to your applicants.*
- You may include the high school administrators in your promotion plans, but be sure to have Rotarians interview and select the students you sponsor for RYLA.
- The first two students you select to sponsor are in; the District RYLA committee does not need to give approval. Names and email addresses of all applicants (selected and to be placed on the waitlist) should be submitted to the following Google Form by May 1, 2021: <https://forms.gle/feASXPKtJtWWYLFy5>

Thank you for your time, assistance and cooperation;  
we are looking forward to another exceptionally successful year!

**LIST OF ENCLOSED MATERIALS FOR  
RYLA CANDIDATE SELECTION AND REGISTRATION**

**MATERIALS FOR THE ROTARY CLUB:**

1. PROCEDURES FOR RYLA CANDIDATE SELECTION AND REGISTRATION: This is your guide for the entire process of student selection and registration. Please read and follow the instructions carefully. (1 page)
2. FACT SHEET FOR ROTARY CLUBS: This is a general overview of the RYLA conference.
3. NOTIFICATION OF STUDENT SELECTION: Notify the District RYLA Committee of whom your selected students are for RYLA 2021 by completing the following Google Form by **May 1, 2021**: <https://forms.gle/feASXPKtJtWWYLFy5>.

**MATERIALS FOR THE STUDENT:**

4. RYLA APPLICATION: This is to be distributed to all potential candidates (**should you wish to convert this application into a digital format, please feel free to do so**). Please ensure that each student who indicates interest in attending the conference receives his/her own copy. Please be sure to fill in your contact information on Page 1 prior to application distribution. Pages 1-3 should be retained by the student's family. Page 4 should be returned to you with the required attachments. Note: The student must complete the application before he or she is accepted to attend RYLA. (4 pages)

## **PROCEDURES FOR RYLA CANDIDATE SELECTION AND REGISTRATION (1 of 1)**

### **COMMITTEE ORGANIZATION/DECISIONS:**

- Recruit a committee of 2--3 people from your club
- Establish a plan for promoting RYLA in your community
- Establish a plan for interviewing, selecting, and registering students
- Determine how many students your club will sponsor at \$400 per student (2 students max)
- Submit a list of selected student's information to the District RYLA Committee by **May 1, 2021** via [this Google Form](#)

### **TIMELINE:**

- Set date for students to return applications to your club
- Distribute "RYLA Application" (3 Pages)
- Collect completed applications ("RYLA Application Page 3" with "Required Attachments")
- Review applications prior to conducting interviews
- Set interview schedule, determine each member's interviewing role, conduct interviews
- Select students to sponsor. Notify students that they have been selected to attend RYLA 2021
- Ensure selected students complete RYLA 2021 Registration Google Form – Will be submitted directly to the RYLA District Committee (this form **will be sent directly to students by May 1, 2021**)
- Mail one sponsorship check (covering all students) to Josh Jordan postmarked no later than **May 1, 2021**

### **IMPORTANT NOTES:**

- Ensure that your club information is written on all student materials
- Keep on schedule! Ensure students submit their applications by the date requested
- Retrieve and examine applications and attachments prior to interviews to ensure a strong interview process and on-time mailing to the District RYLA Committee
- Inform students if they have been selected to attend RYLA 2021.
- Mailing your registration package:
  - Enclose your club's check made payable to Rotary District 7210 for \$400/student

### **ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS:**

- Make this opportunity available to many students by working with the sophomore and junior class officers, a guidance counselor, or the principal of your local high school
- Do NOT accept candidates who will not be able to attend the entire conference
- Perhaps submit an article to local newspapers announcing your Club's RYLA Scholarship
- Select an interview site where your candidates can feel at ease. Encourage students to dress appropriately. Give them information about what your Rotary Club does.
- Prepare open-ended interview questions that stimulate thought/conversation, that also refer to points made in the student's application.

**Mail all sponsorship fee checks, postmarked by May 1, 2021 to:**

Rotary Youth Leadership Awards, C/O Joshua Jordan, 23 Lorraine Blvd., Poughkeepsie, NY 12603

**FACT SHEET FOR ROTARY CLUBS (1 of 1)**

**Selected conferee names due to District RYLA Committee:** May 1, 2021

**Conference Dates:** Sunday, June 27 - Thursday, July 1

**Location:** Mount Saint Mary College, Newburgh, NY

**Participant Arrival Time:** Sunday, June 27 -- 2:30PM - 3:15PM

**Departure Time:** Thursday, July 1 – Approximately 4:30PM

**Cost to Rotary Club: \$400 per student** (non-refundable after May 15<sup>th</sup>)

**RYLA Participant Qualifications:**

- Entering 11th or 12th grade in September 2021
- Good academic record
- Demonstrated leadership potential/qualities
- Correctly submits a completed application, with all requested attachments
- If selected, will attend the entire conference

**Sponsoring Rotary Club responsibilities (START NOW):**

- Qualify students according to district criteria (above)
- Ensure submission of student names (<https://forms.gle/feASXPKtJtWWYLFy5>) and sponsorship fees to Joshua Jordan (check by mail) by May 1, 2021
- Ensure reliable round-trip transportation to the conference for all sponsored students

**Ways Rotarians can help:**

- Submit RYLA stories to local media for coverage. Toot your own horn!
- Provide a post-Conference opportunity for your student(s) to share his/her experience at a meeting of your club

If you have questions, please contact **RYLA Co-Executive Director**,  
Joshua Jordan, at (845)320-2375 (M-F, 9AM - 5PM), or [joshjordan321@gmail.com](mailto:joshjordan321@gmail.com)

**Mail all sponsorship fee checks, postmarked by May 1, 2021 to:**  
Rotary Youth Leadership Awards, C/O Joshua Jordan, 23 Lorraine Blvd., Poughkeepsie, NY 12603

**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, June 27, 2021 – Thursday, July 1, 2021**

Mount Saint Mary College, Newburgh, NY

**\*\*FOR SOPHOMORE & JUNIOR STUDENTS ONLY\*\***

\_\_\_\_\_ 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: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Numbers: \_\_\_\_\_ (h) \_\_\_\_\_ (w)

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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

\_\_\_\_\_  
(RYLA Application Due Date)

Your completed RYLA application must include...

- RYLA Application - Page 3 of 3
- 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 and juniors 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 or junior ready to enter his/her junior or senior 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**

At the time of the release of this application, the District RYLA Committee is planning to host an in-person RYLA 2021 Conference. While we are optimistic about this year, 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, we will not hesitate to alter our plans accordingly.

Should it be deemed unsafe to host an overnight, in-person conference come the end of June, our committee is prepared to host a modified in-person conference or shift to an entirely virtual format. Rotary clubs and selected conference attendees alike will be kept updated regarding any changes to the conference format. Information will be disseminated via the student email address with which you provide our staff, should you be selected to attend RYLA 2021.

Please be assured that, should the conference move forward in the typical overnight, in-person (or modified in-person) format, a plethora of precautions will be implemented into our program to ensure the safety of all involved. These precautions will include, but not be limited to, mandatory mask wearing at all times, physical distancing, daily temperature checks, and mandatory pre-conference COVID-19 testing (-or- proof of vaccination -or- positive antibody screening within last 90 days).

**By accepting a seat to attend this conference, please ensure you would be comfortable attending in ANY of the three modes listed:**

- Option A: Overnight, In-Person RYLA Conference
- Option B: Modified, In-Person RYLA Conference
- Option C: Virtual RYLA Conference

If the RYLA 2021 Conference is held in-person, should any attendee begin to exhibit any symptoms of COVID-19 between June 27<sup>th</sup> and July 1<sup>st</sup>, they will be required to leave the conference and will not be invited to return, for the safety of all involved. 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, should the issue arise.

**RYLA APPLICATION (Page 4 of 4)**  
Rotary Club Information

<b>Sponsoring Rotary Club:</b>	
<b>Rotarian Contact</b>	
<b>Home contact phone #:</b>	
<b>Work contact phone #:</b>	

Student Last Name, First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of High School: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Student Cell Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Student 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 two letters of recommendation from teachers, administrators, or community leaders 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 (and junior, if applicable) year, to date