

## GUIDELINES FOR SELECTING YOUR "RYLA" PARTICIPANTS

The organization should present your Club's Committee with two or three times the number of qualified candidates you plan to select. Your Committee should then interview and choose the best-qualified students who are juniors going into their senior year. If you have any questions contact Alice Mehlberg at 505-463-6593 or by email at [amehlberg@yahoo.com](mailto:amehlberg@yahoo.com).

The following considerations are offered as possible criteria to be used in your selection process:

### **Leadership Potential:**

Does the student demonstrate those qualities, which might make him or her effective leader?

### **Questioning Thought:**

Does the student have the ability to think through and arbitrate conflicts of value? Does the student have the ability to identify problems and seek creative solutions?

### **Citizenship:**

Is the candidate open to different ideas, cultures, races, religions, and values? Tomorrow's leaders will be a part of a multi-racial, multi-cultural, multi-religious society strongly influenced by the global information revolution.

### **Ability to Relate with Peers:**

How easily does the candidate get along with others?

### **Openness to this Experience:**

Will the candidate be open and adaptive enough to embrace the opportunities and challenges of life in a free and democratic society?

### **Leadership/ Work Experience:**

Has the student had opportunities to practice leadership skills in real-life situations? (look for officers of school organizations, class officers, athletic team captains, and extracurricular leadership experience in Scouts, Church groups, etc.).

### **Extracurricular Activities:**

Has the candidate been involved in extracurricular activities? Emphasize quality of involvement rather than quantity. Has he or she had a job after school, evenings, or on weekends?

### **Representative of Your Organization:**

Is this candidate going to make a difference when he or she goes back to school with his/her peer group? We need to make an impact with all of the groups represented in a school and choosing candidates from different races, cultures, and values will enrich the others at the school when these young leaders return.

Your Club would be wise to select "alternate candidates" who will be prepared to attend the Camp in the event that any of your primary candidates could not attend. Last minute cancellations, and the problems that they cause, could thus be eliminated.

## **ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

We are looking for interested, sincere, well-rounded, potential leaders. The selection of good candidates by Rotarians is a critical element in the success of the RYLA program (see Interview Rating Chart).

Any young man or woman - regardless of race, creed, or color:

- who will be a high school senior in September 2017,
- who has demonstrated leadership potential in school, church, or community service, and
- who has a desire to develop his or her leadership potential, and
- who will contribute to making RYLA a meaningful experience for others,
- who will make every effort to attend RYLA.

## **SELECTION PROCEDURE**

Nominations will be accepted from school guidance counselors, teachers, administrators, student councils, youth groups, social agencies, community leaders, and Rotarians. Final selections, however, are made following interviews by the sponsoring Rotary Club. WHEN SELECTING STUDENT PARTICIPANTS, PLEASE ENSURE THAT THE STUDENTS WILL BE ABLE TO STAY FOR THE ENTIRE PROGRAM WITHOUT ANY OTHER COMMITMENTS. THE PROGRAM IS VERY DEMANDING AND YOU SHOULD BE VERY CAREFUL IN YOUR SELECTION.

## **FOR MORE INFORMATION**

Contact your RYLA chairman, president of your local Rotary Club, or one of the District Committee members. If they are not available, phone District RYLA Chair - Shane LeMon at 505-343-0400 x101 or email Shane at [shanelemon@aol.com](mailto:shanelemon@aol.com).

All RYLA Documents and Videos are posted on the District's web site at [www.rotary5520.org](http://www.rotary5520.org) then select **New Generation (Youth Services) and choose RYLA.**