

SUPPORT YOUR INTERACT CLUB | 2015-16

A successful Interact club starts with a committed sponsor Rotary club. Rotary members support Interact as sponsors, guides, and mentors. Rotarians work side-by-side with Interactors to serve local schools and communities. Most importantly, Rotary members keep the connection between Interact and Rotary strong by reporting club leaders, connecting Interact clubs with new opportunities, and providing a safe environment for all youth who participate in our programs.

STAY UPDATED

Report club leaders annually

Every year, Interact clubs must report a president or adviser through our <u>online update</u> <u>form</u>. To navigate to this form on our website, visit <u>My Rotary</u>, select <u>Interact</u> from the Learning & Reference menu, and scroll down to "Update your club and membership data." Since Rotary does not share information about legal minors, including Interact club presidents, we encourage *all Interact clubs to report an Interact Adviser*, that is, a Rotarian, school staff member, or community leader who supports the Interact club. This adult contact, and the sponsor Rotary club president, will receive all Interact program updates from Rotary.



Our online update form replaces the "*Incoming Interact Officer Data Form*" in your *Interact Handbook*. Now you can update all your information online!

FOLLOW ROTARY'S YOUTH PROTECTION POLICIES

In any given year, Rotary works with more than 500,000 youth and young adults through our programs. For every Interact club, every RYLA event, and every Rotary Youth Exchange, the safety of youth is our first priority. Our policies ask clubs and districts to follow all youth protection laws, develop risk management plans, and respond appropriately to any concerns or allegations that arise. Our policies apply to all of our programs for young leaders—Rotary Youth Exchange, Interact, and RYLA—as well as to any activities where Rotary members work with legal minors.

Statement of Conduct for Working with Youth

Rotary International strives to create and maintain a safe environment for all youth who participate in Rotary activities. To the best of their ability, Rotarians, Rotarians' spouses, and partners, and other volunteers must safeguard the children and young people they come into contact with and protect them from physical, sexual, and emotional abuse. There are specific policies that apply when youth travel outside their local communities for service or leadership activities. Rotarians must obtain written permission from parents or guardians, provide specific program details, and require families to obtain travel insurance. For international travel activity, we ask district governors to work closely with their Youth Exchange chairs and youth protection officers to review and approve all arrangements, including sleeping accommodations, travel itineraries, and crisis management plans.

All of these policies can be found in the <u>*Rotary Code of Policies*</u>. For more information about our youth travel or youth protection policies, email us at <u>risppo@rotary.org</u>.

CELEBRATE INTERACT

World Interact Week

For nearly 60 years Interact has developed young leaders who take action to create a better world. Celebrate World Interact Week this **30 October-6 November** and connect with Interactors worldwide to demonstrate how Interact clubs make a difference. Rotary clubs plan joint service projects, invite Interactors to their meetings, and promote Rotary's youth service to the community.



There's no need to report your World Interact Week activities to Rotary. You can <u>download and customize</u> your Certificate of Recognition online!

Presidential Citation for Interact Clubs

The Presidential Citation for Interact Clubs recognizes Interact clubs that are making a positive difference in the world. Share the <u>2015-16 Interact Presidential Citation for Interact Clubs</u> with your club. Help them achieve the president's challenges before 1 April 2016. Questions? Email <u>RIAwards@rotary.org</u>.

SHARE YOUR SUCCESSES

Interact Video Contest

Show us how your Interact club is creating positive change in your community and you could win \$500 for your next service project. Every year we ask Interact clubs to create a short video (from 30 seconds to three minutes long) that inspires others to take action. Check out our <u>YouTube channel</u> to find out about this year's themes and how to get started!

Other ways to show how your Interact club makes a difference in your school or community:

- Share photos and stories on our Interact Facebook page.
- Inspire others to take action by posting your own success stories on <u>Rotary Showcase</u>.
- Start a blog and build a story archive by inviting members to write about their service experiences. Posts can also be submitted to <u>Rotary Voices</u>.



These new ways of sharing your service successes replace the "Interact Project Data Form" in your *Interact Handbook*.

CONNECT WITH OTHER INTERACT RESOURCES

- Learn more about Interact on our website <u>here</u> and <u>here</u>.
- Review the <u>Interact Handbook</u>.
- Discover project ideas on <u>Rotary Showcase</u>.
- Connect, learn, and exchange ideas with other Interactors on Facebook.
- See Interact in action on our <u>Interact Official YouTube Channel</u> or download our other promotional <u>Rotary Videos</u>.
- Subscribe to our monthly Young Leaders in Action <u>newsletter</u> to stay updated on the latest information about Interact and our other programs for young leaders.
- Order supplies for your club from one of Rotary's <u>licensed vendors</u>.
- Check out the <u>Brand Center</u> and <u>Visual Identity Guidelines: Young Leaders</u>. If you have questions regarding these logos, contact our Design team at <u>graphics@rotary.org</u>.

Email us at <u>risppo@rotary.org</u> with any questions!