

Rotary District 9815

District Chairs and Program Directors: Recommendations for Engaging with Alumni

'Rotary Alumni' refers to those people who have been selected for, and taken part and completed (graduated) involvement with the programs of Rotary International, the Rotary Foundation and /or programs run by Rotary Districts including:

- Early Act
- Interact
- Rotaract
- Rotary Youth Exchange
- Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment (RYPEN)
- Model United Nations Assembly (MUNA)
- Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA)
- Rotary Peace Fellowships
- Rotary Global Grant Scholarships
- Vocational training teams (members and leaders)
- District Grant scholarships
- New Generations Service Exchange
- Rotary Foundation awards to individuals in former TRF programs, such as:
 - Ambassadorial Scholarships
 - Grants for University Teachers
 - Group Study Exchange (GSE) (members and leaders)
 - Rotary Volunteers

Please find below some recommendations on how to engage with a prospective and actual Rotary Alumni.

When engaging with a program applicant prior to their participation in a Rotary program:

- Provide them with a brief summary or explanation of what Rotary is and does
- Ensure the applicant agrees to share with the sponsoring Club, if applicable, about their experience following completion of their participation

After their participation in a Rotary program/opportunity:

- Abide by the youth protection policy, if applicable.
- Formally greet all Rotary Alumni upon their return home
- Ensure that Rotary Alumni complete required presentations primarily in the sponsoring district and Club (if applicable), as required by their program's guidelines
 - At the very least write the Alumnus should write a piece for the Club's newsletter and/or website if they are unable to attend a Club to give a presentation.
- Keep Rotary Alumni records current. With their permission, add them to a secure participant/alumni register for the specific Rotary program/opportunity they participated in. Encourage the participant provides a personal email address rather than a school or university email address.
- Invite Rotary Alumni to the district conference

- Invite Rotary Alumni to annual dinners or other functions
- Organize regular reunions of Rotary Alumni
- Encourage Alumni to create My Rotary Profiles and keep their information up to date – and register as Rotary Alumni
- Consider contacting your Alumni when seeking future applicants for the same program/opportunity as the Alumnus participated in and/or to assist in promoting the program.
- Invite Rotary Alumni to participate in the recruitment and selection processes for outbound program participants
- Ask Rotary Alumni to participate in orientation programs for outbound program participants in the district
- Encourage invitations to Rotary Alumni to attend or participate as speakers at special district and club functions.
- Promote awareness and opportunities within Rotary's six areas of focus
- Encourage Alumni to contribute to the Rotary Foundation
- Invite Alumni to 'like' the District's social media accounts.
- Considering holding reunion events
- Considering holding District events, such as luncheons, dinners or cocktail events for Alumni to share their program experience with Rotarians.
- Consider holding events for your program's Alumni during Reconnect Week (annually held the second week of October). Contact the District Alumni Committee for engagement suggestions.
- Recognize and celebrate Early/Interact/Rotaract Club's anniversary.
- Conduct exit interviews following the completion of the Rotary program to ascertain if and how they would like to be involved with Rotary in the future.
- Involve host clubs can be involved in the activities of inbound Youth Exchange students, Ambassadorial Scholars, and other particular Rotary programs.
- Involve sponsoring clubs in running orientation sessions for outbound Youth Exchange students, Ambassadorial Scholars, and participants for other applicable programs, and hold exciting welcome back events for them when they return from abroad.
- Involve Rotaractors in District training events and Rotary's Youth Programs and applicable Foundation opportunities, whether it be as a participant, as a team member who to assist in facilitating the selection process or orientation.
- Consider holding multi-district events for the Alumni of specific Rotary programs such as reunions, networking events and professional development opportunities.
- Consider promoting/recognizing Alumni such as through:
 - Invite Alumni to act as guest speakers at Club and District events.
 - Feature alumni in club or district newsletters
 - Provide interesting/engaging alumni stories to the local media
 - Consider recognizing outstanding contributions of an Alumnus with a Paul Harris Fellow recognition.
- Ensure Alumni are aware of further Rotary opportunities that maybe available to them and of interest including:
 - Rotary Action Groups, Rotary Fellowships and Rotary Community Corps
 - Applicable further Youth Programs
 - Rotary Foundation, District or Club Scholarships
 - Rotaract and/or Rotary membership

- Mentoring opportunities