VIRTUAL JR. RYLA – After even Press Release – September 11, 2022

37 middle school students from two islands and 16 adults participated in the third Rotary-sponsored Virtual Jr. RYLA program event held on Saturday September 10. Keynoter Rochelle Whellams and the 6 Facilitators educated and energized these middle school students to make a difference in their communities. The students made new friends from across the islands and were inspired to take action on their “3 C’s” – Character, Connections and Contributions. They were introduced to the “3 T’s” – Time, Talent and Treaure” and the Rotary 4-Way Test. All the students came away with a contribution that they wanted to take forward for their families, school, or community. The students discovered how they can make a difference by applying the principles of Rotary and the 4-Way test.

From student Rica Marie Ragasa from Highlands Intermediate: “Thank you so much for creating this event! It was amazing and taught us a lot! Especially about character! It was very useful and can help a lot in the future!! And it was very fun!”

From Facilitator Vanessa Moreno: “Thank you for the opportunity to connect with kids who are in a period of their lives when there are a lot of changes. I got the chance to give them the advice that I wished for when I was their age. We talked about real problems and how to overcome them. We discussed the traits they want to develop or enhance and how they can contribute to their school, family, and community.”

For more information about this Rotary-sponsored Youth Program and other Rotary activities on Maui, contact Maui Island Resource Chair Joanne Laird at [mamalrd01@gmail.com](mailto:mamalrd01@gmail.com).

PHOTO #1

Screen Shot of Keynote Rochelle Whellams, six Facilitators and Co-Directors Joanne Laird and Wendy Hornack as they prepared to welcome the students and adults to Rotary’s Virtual Jr. RYLA.

PHOTO #2

Director of Rotary D5000 Virtual Jr. RYLA, Joanne Laird, from the Rotary Club of Lahaina Sunset.