



Sponsoring Rotary Club _____

RYLA Club Coordinator: _____

Phone #: _____

Email: _____

Dear High School Counselor:

It's RYLA time again! Rotary Clubs throughout South Texas are awarding \$300 scholarships to the Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA) camp at the beautiful Camp Zephyr on Lake Corpus Christi on the weekend of **February 3-5, 2017**. RYLA is the premier weekend intensive leadership training retreat for high school sophomores and juniors to enhance their leadership skills, citizenship and personal growth. For a quick view of the RYLA experience, check out the video clips of the camp at this site:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=Zkst1HDs8uo

WHAT WE ASK OF YOU:

- Communicate with the Rotary Club that is selecting and paying \$300 for the students to attend plus providing transportation
- Identify and nominate sophomores and/ or juniors from your school to participate in RYLA 2017. Identify alternates in case of last minute scheduling conflicts. (Alternates on file can also be used by other sponsoring clubs.)
- Provide application forms to the students; assist the Rotary Club obtain completed forms by deadlines below.

WHAT YOUR STUDENTS WILL EXPERIENCE:

- Fun and challenging leadership skill-building activities facilitated by high school seniors and college students who participated previously
- Interaction with local and regional business leaders who will lead sessions and demonstrate leadership skills
- Meeting over 135 sophomores and juniors from South Texas schools (Victoria, Corpus Christi, Laredo, Rio Grande Valley)
- New insights, friends, and leadership development that will impact the rest of their lives

SUGGESTED SELECTION CRITERIA – attached

TIMELINE: Your Rotary contact will advise you of when the forms should be returned, and the final selection process. All forms must be received prior to the Christmas break.

FORMS and INFORMATION FOR YOUR STUDENT NOMINEES and their PARENTS –
included in packet attached:

1. Letters to students and parents explaining RYLA program
2. RYLA Mission Statement and Objectives
3. Selection Criteria
4. Application/Nomination Form (to be filled out and signed by student/parent and returned to you)
5. Consent, Waiver, and Medical Release Form (to be filled out and signed by student's parents or guardians and returned to you)
6. Sexual Abuse Response form (to be filled out by student's parents or guardians and returned to you)
7. Photo Release (to be filled out by student's parents or guardians and returned to you)
8. Frequently Asked Questions
9. Map to Camp Zephyr for student/parent
10. What to Bring for student

Information and a copy of all these forms may be found at <http://www.rotarycc.com/youth-service/ryla/ryla-registration-forms/>

We are very excited about the opportunity to bring this leadership training to your students.

Sincerely,

Rotary Club Coordinator

Forward the completed forms of your nominees to your local sponsoring Rotary Club who can assist you through this process of getting the completed application packets.

The sponsoring Rotary Club is: _____

Your RYLA Club Coordinator is: _____

Telephone number: _____

Email address: _____



PARTICIPANT SELECTION CRITERIA

REQUIRED SELECTION CRITERIA:

- Students participation is restricted to **HIGH SCHOOL SOPHOMORE AND JUNIORS** who plan to complete their senior year at school
- Selection(s) **SHOULD** include **an equal number of male and female** Sophomore and Junior High students from the participating high schools
- Each participating student **MUST** have potential or established leadership skills
- Each participant **MUST** be a **FULL TIME** student
- Be committed to attend the **ENTIRE** weekend - no late arrivals/early releases allowed

OTHER SELECTION CRITERIA:

Although we encourage flexibility in your selection criteria, please consider the following qualities as a guide to selecting your student representative(s):

- Superior citizenship qualities
- Quality and/or significance of participant's extra curricular activities
- Academic Honors or Awards
- Current and Recent Student Leadership Positions
- Work Experience
- High moral character
- Cooperative and willing to participate as a member of a group
- Informed about current events



Frequently Asked Questions

Campers, Parents and School Counselors

What are the Camp dates?

- Friday, February 3 through Sunday, February 5, 2017. Arrive between 4-5 Friday and depart between 2-3 pm Sunday. No late arrivals or early departures are authorized. If students are unable to attend within the scheduled hours, the student does not meet attendance requirements.

Who Pays for Camp?

- Your local Rotary Club is paying \$300.00 for each camper, plus providing transportation; all food and housing and supplies are paid by Rotary. Campers have no fees for Camp.

Where is camp located and how do campers get there?

Camp is located on Lake Corpus Christi, at Camp Zephyr. A map is included in your forms. Your sponsoring Rotary Club is responsible to provide transportation to and from camp. Contact your Rotary Club coordinator for details. Your school counselor can provide the contact at the Rotary Club.

What does the Camper bring to RYLA?

A complete list is located in both the student and parent packet.

What is required of the Parent and Student?

- **CONFIRM** the student will be able to attend the full weekend.
 - **INFORM** your school counselor *at least 2 weeks before camp* if you have to cancel
 - Complete and sign the listed documents, and return to your school counselor
1. Application/Nomination Form
 2. Consent, Waiver, Medical Release Form
 3. Sexual Abuse Response Form
 4. Photography Release Form

A copy of these forms and information on RYLA are available at <http://www.rotarycc.com/youth-service/ryla/ryla-registration-forms/>

The Application/Nomination Form and the Consent, Waiver, Medical Release Form can be filled in on-line and printed out for signatures. Sign all four forms for submission.

Counselors – check the submitted forms for completeness; forward to your local Rotary Club member