

### SPRING RYLA!

RYLA 7255's largest, youth run conference; Friday to Sunday in Riverhead, NY; for high school Sophomore students; applications available Sept-Dec of new Rotary Year; chaperoned & meal preparation by past RYLArians & Rotarians; Funding through District 7255, Major sponsors. lawn sign supporters, Committee fundraising; Changing Lives for over a DECADE!

### SUMMER RYLA!

Two, one-week conferences held in the Berkshires, Lake Norwich; Coach bus transportation provided; funded through scholarship supporters and application fees.

Week I– personal leadership development focusing on relationships, thoughtfulness, professional skills, conflict resolution, along with fellowship and outdoor activities.

Week II– project development skills focused on brainstorming, setting SMART goals, SWOT analysis, budgeting and group presentations; Off-site group challenge activity.

### **COMMITTEE MEETINGS!**

Over 30 members comprised of Youth Committee and Adult Committee; Held once a month, second Thursday of the month at 6-6:30pm; Availability to host a meeting at your club. Contact: RYLA.RD7255@gmail.com

### **RD7255 CONFERENCE!**

Presentation given by Youth Committee at general sessions; Perform Parade of Flag Ceremony; Accompany & escort for Parade of Governors Rotary Youth Leadership Awards | District 7255

# SO, What is a RYLA?

The most commonly asked question of Rotarians & parents, 2015 Summer RYLA II, *Stepping Into the Arena*, participants created the below to explain ...

**K**otary is an international service organization. Its focus is to bring together business and leaders to provide humanitarian service. Through this service, the ultimate goal is to build goodwill and peace. Rotary as an organization is open to all people regardless of race, religion, gender, or political preference. Rotary began RYLA in Australia and since then has expanded all across the globe. RYLA helps teach the future leaders of tomorrow how to handle obstacles they will face in the real world. Rotarians, now through RYLA, have taught youth important values. RYLA builds future Rotarians with the primary motto *"Service Above Self."* 

Youth leaders are awarded an opportunity to attend RYLA, and then are selected from within to lead. RYLA in District 7255 is a completely student run program. Students begin RYLA as a sophomore and are encouraged to continue, even into college. Most young leaders who have entered this program have been introduced to it through a Rotary based high school club, Interact. Interact clubs focus on implementing the motto "Service Above Self". Entering RYLA further develops an individual's will to help others. RYLA brings together young adults from all different walks of life into a close-knit community. Through many team-building activities, students begin to become more aware of what is going on around them. Through their new consciousness, values of compassion and acceptance are emphasized.

Leadership qualities are built in students and are meant to be applied in the real world. The annual Spring RYLA conference is the first time that students are exposed to the program, as high school sophomores. During Spring RYLA students listen to speakers and work within small groups. These groups help students to be more active and open to others. They learn useful listening and problem solving skills, as well as develop confidence. The Summer RYLA sessions further expand the character of young adults. The summer event is broken down into two weeks. The first week focuses on constructing leadership traits within the individual. Each day is broken down into specific topics, Power of Authentic Relationships, Power of Thought, Power of the Written Word, and Power of the Spoken Word. They apply these newfound skills into a resume based writing experience, which culminates in a mock interview. After the first week is completed the students are invited to stay and begin a long-term project. These projects are meant help grow and improve RYLA. Week two teaches RYLArians how to create a long-term goal into a team-oriented project.

Awards are achieved as students continue to actively participate in RYLA. Your first year in RYLA you are awarded a scholarship as a sophomore entering as a RYLArian, introduced by a Rotarian, Guidance Counselor, or an older RYLArian. If you decide to climb the leadership ladder, the following year as a junior, you can complete an application for a facilitator position. After being a facilitator, the leadership role is in your Senior year is being part of the Youth Committee or Senior Coordinator. Applicants endure an extensive essay and interview process. Youth Committee are the planning force of the incoming year. Senior Coordinators are the glue that holds it together. This is the basic process that RYLA in District 7255 has adapted in order to sustain a completely student run program. Throughout the years RYLA creates lifelong friendships and bonds that cannot be broken. For this reason, many college students return to chaperone to give back to RYLA what it gave to them.

### DISTRICT 7255 ROTARY YOUTH LEADERSHIP AWARDS CALENDAR YEAR

July- New Year begins!! First District Committee Meeting (DCM) of the year!

August– Summer I & II Backyard Bash Pool Party

September- Spring Apps available until December Facilitator Apps due DCM: RYLAween Agenda lay-out; Summer Feedback Session

**October**– DCM: Spring agenda draft, speakers and activities RYLAween Fundraiser 2017 RD7255 Conference **November–** DCM: application updates; final Spring Agenda; Facilitator update; Finalize Winter Summit plans

**December**– Committee Holiday Dinner, Youth Committee Spring Conference presentation RYLArian applications due

January– Winter Summit for Youth Committee & Senior Coordinators

**February**– Spring RYLArian Acceptance Letters are sent out DCM: Facilitator Weekend Agenda **March**– DCM: Spring supply list confirmed and ordered; Major Sponsor and Support Sign updates Facilitator Training Weekend

**April**– Spring Weekend Conference! Includes, Friends & Family Luncheon Summer I & II registration opens Youth Committee & Senior Coordinators applications due

**May**– YC & SC Interviews Committee Scholarship Dinner Service Day: RYLA at the Ranch

June- DCM: Calendar meeting, program year updates, & planning sessions



RYLA Spring Weekend Rotarians!! Join US in 2017!

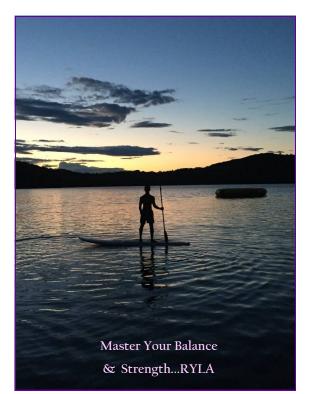
TIME TO RYLA !!!

## SUMMER RYLA CONFERENCE APPLICATIONS ARE READY!!

Summer I, *There Is More In You Than You Know,* is a pre-requisite to Summer II, *Stepping Into The Arena* www.RYLADistrict7255.com

## APPLY ONLINE!

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### THE LEADERSHIP FACTORY

Rotary Youth Leadership Awards, Long Island NY is comprised of youth & Rotarians from the Boroughs of Brooklyn & Queens, and the Counties of Nassau & Suffolk, Rotary International District 7255, Zone 32, USA.

Our District RYLA Committee is comprised of over 30 members, represented by the Youth Committee, Senior Coordinators, Alumni Association, and the Adult Committee.

Long Island RYLA is unique in that our Youth Lead.

Chairman, Thaddaeus Hill Chairwoman, Jacquelyn Yonick

Contact the RYLA Committee at: RYLA.RD7255@gmail.com

