



A 5 DAY LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE FOR UPCOMING JUNIORS



I attended RYLA for the first time in 2015 thanks to Pawling Rotary, and returned as a counselor for the two following years. To this day, I can attribute some of my greatest qualities to what I learned at the conference. Among them, service, leadership, and enthusiasm. A five day conference with strangers was certainly intimidating as a high school sophomore, but the apprehension disappears when you walk through the door, and a week later I found I had formed lifelong friendships.

Through a whirlwind week of activities and experiences that just seemed like pure fun, I learned to be my true self and my best self. I will always be incredibly grateful for my time at the RYLA conference.
Ethan Nagasing - RYLA 2014, 2015, 2016

My RYLA experience was unforgettable... I learned a lot of things about myself and others that taught me a lot. I learned how to comfortably speak in front of people and voice my opinion, while also listening to others'. Also, I learned to have a better mindset and push myself to improve every day. I had so much fun getting to know everyone at RYLA, and I made the best of friendships with people I still talk to today. RYLA was a great experience, and anyone who gets the opportunity to attend should really consider going. - Shannon Maynard, RYLA 2017



RYLA was a wonderful experience in broadening my abilities to become a more efficient leader. A quality that I utilize on a day to day basis that was enhanced at RYLA was being able to become more comfortable speaking in public. There I quickly learned that in order to be successful in life that I have to be able to clearly communicate my thoughts and ideas with a room full of strangers. For me it was a unique experience in that seemingly for the first time I had to work with strangers to complete a common goal.

In RYLA, my group was in charge of creating a dance routine in which we had to perform in front of the entire camp. Now I'm not much of a dancer but I learned that it's okay to be in the spotlight and make a fool of yourself. I learned that it's not as scary to be the center of attention in front of strangers, as I had once thought. Now after I left I wasn't singing and dancing in the streets of Pawling but I had acquired the skills to enhance my well being in taking charge of unfamiliar situations and working with those around me to meet a common goal. - Kyle Christian, RYLA 2014

When you ask most people about RYLA, they'll all say the same thing: "It was a life changing experience and you make a lot of quality friends." But what most people don't realize, is that RYLA didn't really "change" you, it just helped you grow as a leader. Even though you're only there for five days, you improve on your social, group, and leadership characteristics. You meet people you like and don't like, because that's how the real world works. It's all fun and games until someone tries to act like a stick in the mud. That's when you act as a leader to try and encourage that person to contribute to the group. When I went, I thought I was a shy person with a decent idea here or there. I knew I was leadership material, but it was always difficult for me to speak up for myself. RYLA made me realize that keeping quiet will just make you a follower, but I was never one to follow the crowd. I learned that confidence is key in being a leader instead of a follower (cliche, but true!) Did RYLA change me as a person? Maybe, I'm not really sure. But did it help me jump ahead early in my "young adult" life on developing my leadership skills? Definitely. - Katie Meyer, RYLA 2014



RYLA was a four day experience that will last me a lifetime. Not only was I able to meet new people and make new friends, but I also gained so many new skills. RYLA taught me how to communicate effectively and how to be a leader in my school and in my community. It allowed me to work with others in groups and learn how to listen to and implement everyone's ideas. I highly recommend to anyone to attend the RYLA conference. I will never forget RYLA. -Meredith Clark, RYLA 2015



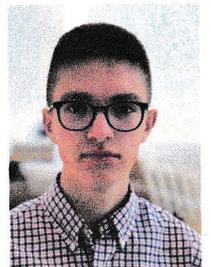
I had a great RYLA experience! The leadership skills I learned during those couple of nights I still use to this day. When talking to my internship counselor recently while here at school, she explained how important it was that we are taught these leadership and teamwork skills so early and how amazing that experience must have looked on my college applications! The activities and different group settings that are planned for you the second you arrive will immediately take you out of your comfort zone in the best way possible and send you home after those days with team working skills and friendships you would never expect. I made friends at RYLA that I still talk to to this day, and it is truly an experience I will never forget. I am thankful to have gotten this experience through Interact Club and I am sure others who would go this year, would someday feel the same way! - Cassandra Sullivan, RYLA 2014

Though it's been almost three years since my week at RYLA, I still think back to some of the activities and skills I learned. My biggest take away was the taste of college living and what it was like to live in a dorm with someone you hadn't met before. I still talk to my roommate even today along with other friends I met along the way. - Katelyn Huggard, RYLA 2015



My RYLA experience was very beneficial in the sense that it prepared me for life in college. At RYLA, you stay in a real college dorm and travel from class to meals independently of adults. This allowed me to get a feel for what living on a college campus would be like, and helped me decide on what type of college atmosphere I would want to choose in my senior year which I'm currently in now. RYLA allowed me to make friends that I'm still friends with now, all while creating a beneficial environment for me to grow and learn about what I would want in the future. -Molly Wolff, RYLA 2016

RYLA was an awesome experience, to say the least. From the program, I met lots of great people and made many great memories. Everyone involved was super enthusiastic and welcoming to anyone who was involved. I still talk to many of the people I met there and it's always a pleasure to run into them at sporting events and school functions now and again. I wholeheartedly recommend RYLA, one of my favorite experiences of high school - Cameron Walters, RYLA 2017



APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE IN THE GUIDANCE OFFICE

For more information: Call Pawling Recreation 845-855-1131

RYLA APPLICATION (1 of 3)

RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards) Conference
Sponsored By Rotary District 7210: "The Heart of the Hudson Valley"
(Columbia, Dutchess, Greene, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Sullivan, & Ulster Counties)

Mount Saint Mary College, Newburgh, NY
Sunday, June 24, 2018 -- Thursday, June 28, 2018

****FOR SOPHOMORE STUDENTS ONLY****

Pawling Rotary Club invites you to apply to become a scholarship
(Name of sponsoring club)

participant in this year's RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards) Conference.

Sponsoring Club's Contact Information:

Rotarian: John Ammaturo

Phone Numbers: 845 656 4707 ^(c)/_(H) 845 855 3010 (w)

Address: Dutchess Auto Body
34 East Main Street
Pawling, NY 12564

Please detach and return the completed application, with requested attachments, to your

Rotarian contact (above) no later than Friday, April 13 (Due Date).

RYLA APPLICATION (2 of 3)

WHAT IS THE ROTARY YOUTH LEADERSHIP AWARDS CONFERENCE?

The Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) Conference is a program for high school sophomores who have shown leadership potential in their home, school, and community. The conference is designed to introduce participants to thoughts and ideas, which if utilized, will strengthen and develop their leadership skills.

It also provides an environment where participants may feel comfortable discussing their ideas with other students from the Mid-Hudson Valley. The conference lasts five days and is held on the campus of Mount Saint Mary College in Newburgh, NY.

THE PROGRAM INCLUDES...

Personal assessment	Goal setting	Delegating	Time management
Communication and listening	Public speaking	Problem solving	Team-building
Compromising	Setting priorities	Interpersonal relationships	Brainstorming

RYLA ACTIVITIES

Group Projects: Each student will be a member of a group during the conference. Each group works on a project that provides hands-on experience with planning, implementation, and evaluation.

Small Group Activities: Discussion-based activities are held to share and explore notions of leadership.

Social Time: There is space in the program for organized athletic activities, dancing, and developing friendships with other participants and staff.

IN ORDER TO ATTEND RYLA, THE APPLICANT MUST...

1. Be a sophomore ready to enter his/her junior year in the fall
2. Have shown demonstrated leadership potential in school and the community
3. Demonstrate the qualities of a good student
4. Submit a completed application
5. Be selected and sponsored by your local Rotary Club

RYLA APPLICATION (Page 3 of 3)
Rotary Club Information

Sponsoring Rotary Club:	
Rotarian Contact	
Home contact phone #:	
Work contact phone #:	

Student Last Name, First Name: _____

Name of High School: _____

School Address: _____

Home Address: _____

Student Cell Phone #: _____

This student, _____, has my permission to apply to and be a participant in this conference. I understand that acceptance to be a participant in the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards Conference obligates the student to attend the entire conference. I also understand that participation may be terminated for inappropriate behavior, violation of conference rules and regulations, or for possession of an unpermitted property.

(Printed name of parent/guardian)

(Signature of parent/guardian)

(Home phone number of parent/guardian)

(Cell phone number of parent/guardian)

(Work phone number of parent/guardian)

REQUIRED ATTACHMENTS

1. Briefly describe your (1) participation and (2) leadership experiences in your extracurricular activities, service, and employment, as well as the reasons why you are interested in attending this conference.
2. Submit two letters of recommendation from teachers, administrators, or community leaders who can comment on your accomplishments and/or potential. Submit a similar recommendation from a parent or guardian.
3. Submit a copy of your school transcript indicating your subjects and grades for freshman and sophomore year, to date.