

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL
DISTRICT 6840
ROTARY YOUTH LEADERSHIP AWARDS
RYLA 2026

"Service Above Self"

RYLA DIRECTOR

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2025-2026

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Dear High School Counselor,

RYLA is an all expense paid scholarship for incoming seniors to attend a 6 day sleepaway leadership camp in July, courtesy of your local Rotary Club. During these 6 days your students will learn very important skills such as communication, leadership, service, problem solving, and teamwork. This will be achieved through a combination of hands-on activities, professional speakers, and various challenges throughout the week.

Approximately 65 students from the Louisiana-Mississippi Gulf Coast will participate in this intense experiential camp. Students will have an opportunity to discover their identity as a leader and how they can use their skills to impact their schools and communities. The bond that these students create with each other throughout this week often lasts a lifetime.

Rotary International is a global service/humanitarian organization that aims to help make the world a better place. Wherever you go in the world you will find active rotary clubs striving to help better their local communities. They always strive to put service above self. This is what we would like to instill in our campers. We would like for them to leave camp with a passion to serve and lead their communities forward to a positive future.

APPLICATION INFO

Our online application can be found at our website ryla6840.com. The student will complete this application. We would ask the student to determine their nearest rotary club to populate onto the application (there will be a drop down of all clubs for reference). Once the application is received it will be routed to their respective rotary clubs. Once the clubs select the students who will be awarded scholarships to attend a confirmation email will be sent out. Note, some clubs like to interview their students prior to awarding the scholarship. This will be scheduled around 2 weeks after they submit their application.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Application Deadline: Applications are live from January 31st and will close May 15th.

Interviews: If Rotary Clubs have a desire to interview their students they will be contacted within 2 weeks of the application deadline to schedule an interview.

Selection Made: When Rotary clubs make their selection for who will receive a RYLA scholarship notifications will be sent out via email.

Lunch With Rotary Club: A Rotary Club Representative will invite the camper and their parents to a club meeting in the month of June for a formal presentation of certificate and scholarship.

Confirmation Mailed: Confirmation packets will be emailed to student in early June with critical camp information. If you haven't received these by June 15th please reach out ryla6840@gmail.com.

RYLA Program Dates: Check in at the Solomon Retreat Center in Loranger, LA at 3:00 PM on Sunday, July 12th, 2026. Check out at 11:00 AM on Friday, July 17th, 2026.



For More Information: WWW.RYLA6840.COM
E-MAIL US AT RYLA6840@Gmail.com OR Devin Pounds 985-750-1108