



December 1, 2016

Dear District 6760 Rotarians,

It is time to start planning for the 2017 RYLA Program!! This year, RYLA will be held from Tuesday, June 6, 2017 to Saturday, June 10, 2017, again on the beautiful campus of Austin Peay State University, in Clarksville, TN. **Applications for the 2017 RYLA Program are available at www.ryla6760.org and are due on March 31st!**

This year's program will be a five day learning experience, with a program coordinated by your District 6760 RYLA Committee. Many of you have been involved in RYLA in the past; and for your support, we thank you! I now hope that you will continue that support by encouraging young people from your area to become involved in RYLA during the summer of 2017. For those of you that have not had the opportunity to become involved in RYLA, please consider giving of your time to help young people grow and prosper as a part of this program. Here is some general information about this year's RYLA Program.

What is RYLA?

The Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA) is Rotary's leadership training program for young people. Talented high school students are chosen from among their peers to attend a series of outdoor activities, leadership training events, seminars, etc. for five days in June.

The RYLA program enables young people to debate issues of professional responsibility and human relations, improve leadership and communication skills, learn about businesses and institutions, and meet Rotarians while having fun and making friends. For young adults, RYLA provides the opportunity to refine skills and explore pertinent topics with their peers and elders.

RYLA emphasizes leadership, citizenship, and personal growth, and aims to:

- *Demonstrate Rotary's respect and concern for youth*
- *Provide an effective training experience for selected youth and potential leaders*
- *Encourage leadership of youth by youth*
- *Recognize publicly young people who are rendering service to their communities*

See for yourself what RYLA is all about: During RYLA 2014 we created a short video that shows what we are doing at RYLA, learn more at: <https://vimeo.com/99600901>

When and Where is RYLA?

The 2017 RYLA program will be held from Tuesday, June 6, 2017 to Saturday, June 10, 2017, at Austin Peay State University, in Clarksville, TN (www.apsu.edu). The schedule will be:

Tues. Jun. 6th	9:00 am 11:00 noon – 10:30 pm	Check-in Lunch and then RYLA activities all day
Wed-Friday	7:30 am – 11:00 pm	RYLA activities all day
Sat. Jun. 10th	7:30 am – 1:00 pm 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm 3:00 pm	RYLA activities Graduation (family and friends invited to attend at APSU) Departure

How do Participants Apply?

To apply for the 2017 Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA), potential participants should submit all of the following:

- A completed application (all 6 pages)...available at www.ryla6760.org
- A copy of the student's (or parent's) Health Insurance Card
- Fee payment (\$400 each; paid by the sponsoring Rotary Club; Payable to 'District 6760 – RYLA')

Completed applications can be mailed by March 31st to:

District 6760 RYLA Committee
c/o Robert L. Huffman
3925 Sango Road
Clarksville, TN 37043

Application Process/Timeline

Jan. 1-15 th	Application materials made available to District 6760 Rotary Clubs
Feb. 1 st	Rotary Club provides application materials to prospective RYLA applicants
Mar. 1 st	RYLA applicants complete application materials and return to Rotary Club
Mar. 31st	Rotary Club forwards applications (with \$400 payment) to the RYLA committee
May 1 st	Official 2017 District 6760 RYLA Acceptance Letters sent to selected RYLA participants
Jun. 6 th	RYLA program begins with check-in at 9:00 am
Jun. 10 th	RYLA program ends with graduation, which will be held from 2:30 pm to 3:30 pm

Who is Eligible?

Young people, entering the **10th or 11th grade**, who live or attend high school within the boundaries of Rotary District 6760 are eligible. Students entering another year of high school in the Fall 2017 (i.e.: 9th or 12th grade) may be considered; however, entering 10th and 11th grade students will be given preference. Those wishing to participate must complete a RYLA Application, available at www.ryla6760.org, and submit it by March 31st.

How Much Does It Cost....And Who Pays?

The RYLA program is organized by the Rotary District 6760 RYLA Committee. The District subsidizes the cost of the program. All unsubsidized fees are paid for the participating student by the sponsoring Rotary Club. Applicants may be chosen from those individuals previously known to the sponsoring Rotary Club and/or students may seek out the Rotary Club for sponsorship. Selection of which student(s) to sponsor is solely the discretion of the individual sponsoring Rotary Club.

The cost of the 2017 RYLA program (paid by the sponsoring Rotary Club) is **\$400 per participant**.

Payment should accompany a complete application (available at www.ryla6760.org), be made payable to 'District 6760 – RYLA', and be mailed by March 31st to:

District 6760 RYLA Committee
c/o Robert L. Huffman
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Cancellations on or after April 30th will result in no refund of any payment made. Rotary Clubs may choose a replacement, when possible, as determined by the RYLA Committee. If it is possible for the Rotary Club to choose a replacement in a timely manner, all necessary paperwork must be submitted for the replacement student, by June 1st. If it is NOT possible for the Rotary Club to choose a replacement, as determined by the RYLA Committee, the RYLA Committee may choose a replacement (possibly from another club) without a refund of the original club's fee payment.

Questions?

If you have any questions, please visit www.ryla6760.org or contact, Robert L. Huffman, at 931-265-7452 or bob.huffman@ryla6760.org

Yours In Rotary Service,

Robert L. Huffman

District 6760 RYLA Chair