



Missouri Rotary Youth Leadership Award Academy

Dear Club President,

RYLA is a Rotary International program that has been in Missouri for the past thirteen years. Districts 6080, 6060 and 6040 have formally partnered together to fund and administer this premier academic academy. The students are nominated and encouraged to apply, through recommendations of Rotarians and the local high school administrators/faculty. Students who attend our academy are preferably incoming or outgoing high school sophomores. The venue location has varied through the years, but this year's camp will be held at William Wood University in Fulton, Sunday June 22nd thru Wednesday evening the 25th, 2008. The adult staff is comprised of qualified professional educators, motivational presenters, and outstanding Rotarians. Academy curriculum includes a personality self-assessment, a professional team-challenge ropes course, and statewide networking for students, based on the service leadership Rotary theories of leadership.

The Missouri RYLA Academy can change the course of a young person's life. He or she walks away with renewed self-esteem, new friends, and the confidence to return to his or her high schools to lead and serve his or her peers. These students get an introduction to Rotary, as well as exposure to additional Rotary youth programs. Hundreds of students have participated in our RYLA youth program, and we look forward to serving many more.

Our goal is to see each interested club within Missouri select a qualified applicant and sponsor his or her for our RYLA Academy. Academy costs are \$400 per participant, which some clubs opt to have the student pay a small portion of the tuition (to avoid late cancellations). The sponsoring club is also responsible for arranging the student's transportation to and from Fulton, as

well as collecting any required paperwork before specific due dates. In return, you should ask your sponsored participant to present a club program, as well as perhaps initiate the chartering of an Interact Club at your local high school or work with your group on a club service project.

The enclosed documents include the following:

For the student nominees: on white paper

Informational letter for the nominated student and his or her parent/guardians

Informational flier for the applicant to keep for reference

Academy application

For your club: on yellow paper

An informational flier: How to select a student

Important Academy deadline date sheet

We would like this student packet given to each nominee so please copy as many as you need. The second packet is for your club use.

Due to the huge success of the MO RYLA Academy, space is limited.

Applicants are received on a first come, first serve system. Please adhere to the final registration date of **MARCH 1, 2008.**

We look forward to working with you and your club. If your club is interested in obtaining additional information, please feel free to contact me with questions, ideas and suggestions. I can be reached at vanderson7@kc.rr.com or 816-734-3901.

Good luck,

Valerie Anderson, Director
Missouri RYLA Academy