



39th Annual

Rotary Youth Leadership Awards Seminar (RYLA)
Empowering our Youth

2023 AWARDS SEMINAR PROGRAM
DECEMBER 1-3, 2023

Inn at Virginia Tech & Skelton Conference Center Blacksburg, VA

Paula Alston, District Governor

Inez Rodenburg Hasson, RYLA Chair

Name _____



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ROTARY'S MOTTO



Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) is an intensive training program that brings together young adults to further character and leadership skills. For each of you, this recognition offers the opportunity to build self-confidence, gain exposure to a variety of issues and people, meet active community leaders, and learn valuable information and career skills.

Originating in 1959 in Queensland, Australia, RYLA was created as a festival highlighting local youth organized in honor of a royal visit by Princess Victoria. Through Rotarians' constant belief in the potential of youth, RYLA has since become an opportunity to help the next generation of leaders define themselves and expand their skills. Officially adopted by Rotary International (RI) in 1971, this exciting program engages Rotary clubs and districts around the world.

Enjoy your RYLA experience and take in as much as you can. The more you participate, the more rewarding this experience can be. Through your service and dedication, you serve as Rotary's next generation and are critical to our future.

District 7570 RYLA Committee



WELCOME

Rotary Youth Leadership Awards Seminar

The Rotary Youth Leadership Awards Seminar (RYLA) is an event of Rotary International's New Generations programs. The purpose of the seminar is to recognize the leadership potential and achievements of young people in Rotary District 7570.

Congratulations on being selected to attend this event where you will learn about leadership and how you can make winning choices in your life, in your community and in your world. Enjoy your weekend at RYLA!

Seminar Guidelines

1. Students will be expected to participate fully in all activities.
2. Students are subject to the authority of the leaders and chaperones of RYLA.
3. No alcohol, drugs or tobacco are permitted during the period covered by RYLA.
4. Students should not leave the premises of The Inn at Virginia Tech and Skelton Conference Center during the RYLA period unless you have a pre-approved reason for doing so.
5. Rotarians and chaperones will be available to answer questions and concerns you may have.

Points of Information

1. You will be invited to a Rotary meeting of your sponsoring club to give a brief report on your experiences at RYLA and to receive a certificate of attendance. Please plan for this opportunity by writing a few key points you would like to share with the Club in appreciation for their sponsorship.
2. Meet new friends from throughout the district.



2023-2024 Rotary Theme



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Rotary District 7570 rotary youth leadership awards

Friday, December 1, 2023

11:00-12:30PM	Registration – The Inn at Virginia Tech and Skelton Conference Center	Latham Foyer
1:00 PM	Welcome, Announcements Inez Rodenburg Hasson, RYLA Chair Ringing the Bell Pledge of Allegiance	Assembly Hall
1:10PM	Expectations of Weekend	Assembly Hall
1:20PM	Discovering your Personality and True Colors Rotarians David Smith, Julia Kogut, Michael Williams and Nadine J-Hamm	Drillfield/Duck Pond
2:15PM	Facilitators and Chaperones Meeting Inez Rodenburg Hasson	Assembly Hall
2:30PM	Refreshment Break	Drillfield/Duck Pond - Upstairs
4:15PM	General Announcements and Room Assignments	Drillfield/Duck Pond
5:30PM	Meet in Skelton Lobby	
6:00PM	Dinner D2 – Virginia Tech Campus	
7:00PM	Squires Breakzone – Game Night!	Squires Student Center
8:30PM	Bus Pickup from Squires Student Center	
8:45PM	Student Free Time	Skelton Inn
11:00/11:30PM	Students in own rooms, lights out by 11:30PM	



MALAWI

Two teams of young leaders in Malawi worked together in a race against other teams to complete challenges that required teamwork and communication.



UNITED STATES

RYLA in Williams Bay, Wisconsin, USA, challenged more than 80 students to participate in outdoor activities that developed team building, problem solving, and communication.



ENGLAND

Outside of Warwickshire, England, RYLA participants learned to work together to accomplish a task and build trust.

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Saturday, December 2, 2023

7:30-8:30AM	Breakfast	Latham AB
8:30AM	<i>Volunteers for Service Project</i>	Latham AB
8:30AM	Welcome and Announcements	Assembly Hall
	Inez Rodenburg	
	Ring the Bells	
	Pledge of Allegiance	
	Thought of the Day – Charlotte Whitted	
8:40AM	Rotary Youth Exchange – Charlotte Whitted	Assembly Hall
9:10AM	Keynote Speaker – Rotary International President – Elect Stephanie Urchick	Assembly Hall
9:45AM	Break	Assembly Hall
10:00AM	Gather for Service Project	Latham AB
10:30AM	Service Project – Rise Against Hunger	Latham AM
12:00PM	Lunch at the Inn – Box Lunch	Latham AB
12:45PM	Four-Way Test Speeches	Assembly Hall
1:15PM	Speed Leadership Building – Break out groups	Assembly Hall
	Ethical Leadership	
	Service and Community/World Engagement	
	Public Speaking and Communication	
	Collaboration and Team Building	
3:00PM	Break before Dinner	
6:30PM	Technotes A Cappella Group	Latham AB
6:45PM	Dinner	Latham AB
7:15PM	Presentations	Latham AB
	District Governor – Paula Alston	
	Four-Way Speech Winners – Julia Kogut	
	Keynote Speaker – Dr. Julie Brown	
8:30PM	Dancing with DJ Earl Brown	Latham AB
11:00PM	Students in Room by 11:00, Lights out by 11:30PM	

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Sunday, December 3, 2023

7:30AM-8:30AM	Breakfast	Latham AB
8:30AM	Welcome and Announcements Inez Rodenburg Ringing the Bells Pledge of Allegiance Thought of the Day – Julia Kogut	Assembly Hall
8:40AM	Empowering Students with CAPE Amelia Stransell, Rotarian and FASTA founder	Assembly Hall
9:15AM	Interact Projects	
9:30AM	Reflections Team Building and Next Steps	Assembly Hall
10:15AM	Closing Ceremony and Photographic Highlights	Assembly Hall
11:00AM	RYLA Check-out/Student Pick-Up	

**Thank you for participating in RYLA and
have a safe trip back home!**

Please complete the seminar survey below,

<https://forms.office.com/r/1P6m3kthUb>



**CREATE HOPE
in the WORLD**

RI President R. Gordon McInally



R. Gordon R. McInally is president of Rotary International. He was educated at the Royal High School in Edinburgh and at the University of Dundee, where he earned his graduate degree in dental surgery. Gordon joined Rotary in 1984 at age 26. A member of the Rotary Club of South Queensferry, he has served as president and vice president of Rotary International in Great Britain and Ireland. He has also served RI as a director and on several committees, most recently as an adviser to the 2022 Houston Convention Committee and chair of the Operations Review Committee. "My vision is that Rotary should exist everywhere in a style to suit everyone who has the desire to be part of us and to help us do good in the world," he says.

RI President-Elect Stephanie Urchick



Stephanie Urchick is a member of the Rotary Club of McMurray, Pennsylvania, USA. She will serve RI as president in 2024-25. She has been an RI director and Rotary Foundation trustee. She has served RI in numerous capacities, including as training leader, regional Rotary Foundation coordinator, and RI president's representative. In addition, Stephanie was a representative and member-at-large to three sessions of the Council on Legislation. A Rotary member since 1991, Stephanie has participated in a variety of international service projects, including National Immunization Days in India and Nigeria. In Vietnam, she worked with clubs to help build a primary school and travelled to the Dominican Republic to install water filters.

A student of several Slavic languages, she has mentored new Rotary members in Ukraine and coordinated a Rotary Foundation grant for a mammography equipment and a biopsy unit for a Hospital in Poland. In its commemorative book, the Rotary Club of Krakow, Poland, noted Stephanie as a key figure for helping the re-birth of Rotary in post-Communist Poland.

Dr. Julie Brown



Dr. Brown currently serves as the Vice President of Advanced Learning at the Institute for Advanced Learning and Research in Danville, VA, a position she has held since 2013. She is responsible for providing high-quality talent development programs, aligned with economic development interests, which build the region's STEM capacity and talent pipeline. She has over twenty-five years of experience in education, working for a public research university, two community colleges, and regional K-12 districts. Dr. Brown received her baccalaureate degree from the University of Virginia, a Master's degree from Longwood University and a Ph.D. from

Old Dominion University. A graduate of the Sorensen Institute and Lead Virginia, Dr. Brown currently serves on numerous boards including the Center for Early Success, Sovah Health, the West Piedmont Workforce Development Board and the Danville Public Schools Education Foundation. Julie has been a Rotarian since 2003. She served as the Danville Riverview Rotary President in 2010, has chaired numerous committees, and hosted several GSE Team members. She is a multiple Paul Harris Fellow.

DGE Amelia J. Stansell



Amelia Stansell is the District Governor Nominee for District 7610, Past President of the Rotary Club of Warrenton, a mother and a business consultant.

Along with her Rotary Club of Warrenton, Amelia co-founded the Fauquier Anti Sex Trafficking Alliance (FASTA). The FASTA mission is *"to inoculate our community through awareness and prevention education, and supporting survivors and their families when we fail. [They] are an alliance of community organizations, agencies and individuals working toward this common goal."*

With FASTA members, she creates community awareness through a series of Community Conversations with partners such as Anti-Trafficking International, Reset 180, Fauquier County Sheriff's Office, Homeland Security Investigations and the FBI. These forums are held in schools and churches since 2018.

Amelia joined the Rotary Action Group Against Slavery after speaking at the 2019 Rotary International Convention in Hamburg, Germany and 2022 in Houston, TX and in Melbourne, Australia in 2023. She serves as the RAGAS State Coordinator for Virginia.

Get Involved to Make a Positive Change!



Interact is a youth based Rotary Organization for students between the ages of 12-18. Interact Clubs can be formed within Middle School or High Schools or a Community-Based Program. Clubs are created to focus on community service and developing leadership skills among peers. Small club or large club – all can make an impact in their community and inspire others. To join or start an Interact Club or get more information, Kayla Payne, Interact Chair, Kayla_payne90@gmail.com



Rotaract clubs brings young people ages 18 and older do develop leadership and professional skills, exchange ideas with community leaders, and have fun through service.



Rotary Youth Exchange helps us build peace one student at a time, experiencing and embracing another culture, staying with host families in another country. Exchanges can be short-term family to family, or long-term during the academic year. For more information on becoming an outbound exchange student, contact RYE District 7570 Chair Charlotte Whitted charlottewhitted@gmail.com

ROTARY FOUR-WAY TEST

Is it the **Truth**?

Is it **Fair** to all Concerned?

Will it build **Good Will** and Better Friendships?

Will it be **Beneficial** to all Concerned?

District 7570 Rotary Youth Leadership Awards Seminar (RYLA) Committee

Inez Rodenburg Hasson, Chair
Nadine Hamm
Julia Kogut
Andy Matherly
Tootie Rinker
David Smith
Charlotte Whitted
Michael Williams

Special Thanks to..

Paula Alston, District Governor
Bret Hrbek, District Governor Elect
Mark Fenyk, Youth Protection Coordinator
Jacob Higginbotham, District Treasurer

A special Thanks to our sponsors,

Warren County Rotary Club

DG Paula and Tom Alston

RYLA

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