

CONGRATULATIONS!

YOU'VE BEEN ACCEPTED TO THE ROTARY
YOUTH LEADERSHIP AWARDS
(RYLA) CONFERENCE 2009
March 12-15 or April 9-12



Rotary
Youth
Leadership
Awards

Rotary District 6440

CONGRATULATIONS!

You have been chosen to attend the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) Conference 2009! You have been selected in recognition of your leadership qualities demonstrated or for the potential recognized within you.

After the RYLA conference you are asked to contact your local club to speak to them about your experience at RYLA. Rotary Clubs meet weekly in your community for either breakfast or lunch and you and your family will be welcome guests. This will be your opportunity to thank the sponsoring club and inform them of what you experienced at RYLA. If you do not know the sponsoring Rotary Club simply let me know and I can tell you everything you need to know.

All participants receive a RYLA tee-shirt, conference CD with photos from the weekend they attended. You will receive both before leaving Sunday morning. These are yours to keep, share and enjoy. You can also use the CD while speaking to the sponsoring Rotary Club. It will be power point ready.

We look forward to meeting you at one of the 2009 RYLA weekends! Please do not forget to;

- Submit transportation memo and medical release forms
 - For Session I - March 12-15 before March 1
 - For Session II – April 9-12 before April 1

If I do not receive the transportation memo I will assume you are arranging your own transportation to and from the RYLA Conference. Thanks and again congratulation on being chosen to attend the RYLA Conference. Prepare to have fun, get some great leadership skills and meet some amazing people.

The conference is held at Edwards Camp & Conference Center in East Troy Wisconsin located on beautiful Lake Beulah. The camp/conference center offers everything we need for a great conference including great lodging, low ropes courses, food and more. We also have exclusive use of the camp.

The conference will begin with coach buses picking up students at eight different suburban locations. Please refer to the enclosed transportation memo page for bus pick up sites and times. Upon your arrival at the conference we will have a snack (taco bar). We will then hold a short group orientation session followed by a short meeting with your assigned small group just to get to know each other.

On Friday morning we will begin two full days of focus and fun. After breakfast we will begin with a speaker presentation followed by team building activities and small group discussions. Later that night former Presidents, Abe Lincoln and Teddy Roosevelt will stop by to speak to us. On Saturday night we will conclude the weekend with each small group performing skits or debates relative to the conference. After skits and debates on Saturday will be a dance with a D.J. Alternative activities will be provided as an alternative to the dance.

If you have received this packet you have been accepted and sponsored to attend. **PLEASE PLAN ON ATTENDING** or contact me as soon as possible should you have a conflict. The sponsoring Rotary Club pays for your attendance in advance to RYLA. Should you not be able to attend we have a waiting list of people who have applied and wish to attend but lack a sponsor. I can easily promise you three things; One, you will have a great time. Two, you will learn skills that will make you a better leader. Three, you will make new friends from different communities.

PLEASE NOTE, I need the transportation memo and medical release form mailed, e-mailed or faxed back to me in advance of your attendance. Fax number, mailing address and e-mail are all provided on the transportation memo and medical release forms. The busses have to know in advance how many people are being picked up at each location. I need the medical release form in case of emergency. Please bring this booklet to camp with you. All the information you need for the weekend should be in this conference booklet. If you have any questions, concerns or comments feel free to contact me at any time at (630)688-5165.

RYLA Participant What to Bring to RYLA Conference

- Sleeping bag or sheets and blankets
- Pillow
- Bath Towel
- Toiletries
- Flashlight
- Warm Clothing
- Rain Gear/Umbrella
- Cold Weather Gear
- Footwear for muddy activities
- Extra Socks/Pants for muddy activities
- ***Pen/Pencil Notebook***
- School Shirt to trade (optional)

Special Notes

- I suggest you leave your I-pod, MP3 player or CD player at home. You will be asked not to wear/use them during all activities. You may bring them if you wish to use during free time or for exercising on your own.
- Leave any jewelry or valuables at home. You do not need any money at RYLA
- Jeans do not dry well if they get wet
- Weather may be warm, cold or raining, prepare accordingly
- Frozen pizza, popcorn, pop and water and other snacks will be provided for late night snacking.

Expectation of Students

- Males may not be in the females rooms in the Lodge or in their cabin or vice versa for any reason at any time for any reason. Violation will result in parents being called to come and get student.
- Please feel free to bring your cell phone but they must be turned off during all sessions and team building activities. Please try to not call friends this particular weekend. You will gain a lot more from the experience and focus should be on learning and having a great time!
- Participation and sharing is expected of all students, you will be asked to participate and share your thoughts, opinion and ideas.
- Participants must speak to sponsoring Rotary Club at one of their meetings. (They meet weekly in the town you are sponsored from) I will give you all the information to make the arrangements or do it for you should you wish.
- Remember, you will be given a photo/video DVD of the weekend and a tee shirt before you depart on Sunday.