



Rotary Youth Leadership Awards

RYLA – Empowering the leaders of tomorrow and inspiring positive change in the community

What is RYLA?

The Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) is an exciting and challenging program designed to equip current and aspiring leaders, aged 20 to 30, with the personal, leadership, and citizenship skills needed to thrive in all aspects of life.

Set in a rural environment, the program offers participants an unforgettable experience filled with learning, personal growth, and plenty of laughter.

When is RYLA?

RYLA will be held from 17th – 23rd January 2027. Applications for RYLA are open now!

Where is RYLA?

RYLA takes place at Camp Cooby, located north of Toowoomba, an inviting venue with scenic lake views and a welcoming staff committed to providing the best opportunities and experiences for participants. Transportation to RYLA is provided by bus, departing on Sunday morning and returning on Saturday evening.

How Do You Apply for RYLA?

Applying for RYLA is easy!

Scan the QR code to fill out a 2027 application form →



If your application is successful, you'll be contacted by a RYLA leader and invited to attend a Rotary meeting with your potential sponsor club. You will also receive all the necessary information prior to RYLA to ensure you're fully prepared for a life-changing week.

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The RYLA Experience

Your RYLA experience begins the moment you step onto the bus, where leaders and fellow participants are eager to help you make the most of this incredible opportunity.

RYLA brings together talented, like-minded individuals from diverse backgrounds to engage in seminars, workshops, outdoor adventures, and reflective exercises.

Of course, no experience is complete without fun! Daily activities and sessions are designed to keep you energized and on your toes throughout the RYLA week.

Why RYLA is for you

Whether you're a young professional, a tertiary student, or anywhere in between, RYLA offers an incredible opportunity to learn, grow, have fun, and make friends.

Participants who embark on the RYLA journey often find they can successfully apply the skills they've gained to their personal lives and careers, while also making a positive impact on their communities.

Additionally, Rotary initiatives and local Rotaract Clubs work closely with participants, inspiring them to create, support, or contribute to projects that address both local and global issues.

What Makes RYLA Special?

The People "Everyone at RYLA was there for different reasons, but we all seemed to be on the same wavelength from the start. I was able to form new friends and I developed a support network for my everyday life."

The Program "I'm not sure I've ever been through such an intense, valuable and fun program. The learnings from the activities related directly to our everyday lives as young adults – core values, personality types, teamwork, communications, goal setting, time management and leadership; all while having a lot of fun!"

The Challenges "RYLA challenged me to face my fears, to step out of my comfort zone, and gave me the confidence to deal with unfamiliar situations and different (or difficult) people".

Rotary "RYLA brought together three nations, creating international friendships. The program afforded participants the opportunity to learn more about Rotary and how we could get involved in our local communities".