 **RYLA APPLICATIONS**

February 18, 2020

Dear Guidance Counselor / School Administration:

Most of you are familiar with RYLA (**R**otary **Y**outh **L**eadership **A**wards). **This year’s RYLA Camp will be held April 17-19, 2020**. The enclosed information gives you more details. Once again, this year, local Rotary Clubs are sponsoring ***high school sophomore students*** to provide scholarships to attend the Rotary Youth Leadership Camp to be held at the 4-H Camp at Allerton Park near Monticello in April each year. A student who is selected can participate in a RYLA leadership weekend during his or her sophomore, junior, and senior years in high school, so this year, we will also sponsor those juniors or seniors who we sponsored last year as they continue in the program. We sent those students a letter, have noted their names for schools to contact them, and will need to know if they are interested again this year.

Students who have demonstrated leadership or exhibit leadership potential are encouraged to apply. Upon completion of the application, a committee of representatives from our club, Decatur Rotary Club #180, will review the applications and students will be selected. Letters or emails will be sent out once all of the needed information has been submitted. Please plan to attend a lunch meeting at our club on a ***Monday in May 2019***. Date to be determined. We want each of our sponsored students along with school counselors or administration to be our guest for lunch at noon at The Decatur Club. Date to be determined. Please ask your students, if chosen, to share their experiences with the Rotary #180 Club members.

We are under a deadline as you see on the materials, so please email Matt Snyder, our RYLA rep for Rotary #180 with names that you know are submitting applications and let’s make arrangements together how best to get the student applications and materials to us by **March 1st**. His email is below.

The local Rotary Clubs sponsoring this program are usually Decatur Rotary #180 and Decatur Metro Rotary.

Included in this mailing is some of the needed information. As you share this opportunity with students in your school, please also familiarize yourself with the RYLA program and the application process [www.rotarydistrict6490.org](http://www.rotarydistrict6490.org) so you can share it with your applicants. The application, parental consent, liability release, and medical form should all be returned by each applicant by **March 1, 2020** for consideration. These forms can also be found on the website referenced above. Please also include a cover letter about your student and why they are a good candidate for this scholarship. As students get the information back to you, please email us names and then we can arrange the best way to get the applications from you by March 1st.

Thank you for your assistance in encouraging teens to take advantage of this opportunity to develop leadership. If you have any questions, please contact Matt Snyder at 217-201-1883 (cell) or by email mattsnyder@roe39.k12.il.us.

Sincerely yours,

Chris Brodnicki - President of Decatur Rotary Club #180 Matt Snyder - RYLA Chairman of Decatur Rotary Club #180