January 3, 2024

 *Student Name
Address*

Dear *Name*:

**CONGRATULATONS** on being chosen to participate in the RYLA 2023 Leadership Conference. It is an honor for you provided by Rotary Club of *Name*.

The Rotary Youth Leadership Award was developed to demonstrate Rotary’s commitment, respect, and concern for youth by encouraging, assisting, and training leaders in responsible and effective youth (peer) leadership. Students are selected who have exhibited leadership abilities in school, church, or community activities.

The Conference is scheduled for **Friday, March 15 through Sunday, March 17,** at Camp Tecumseh near Brookston, Indiana.

Transportation to the camp Friday and home from camp on Sunday is to be arranged by Rotary Club of *Name*. Please be in communication with *Name* as the *Name* Club representative. The RYLA participants are driven to camp as no cars are allowed. Transportation is provided by the Rotary Club of *Name*, with permission from the high school and parent. ***Name* will meet March 17th, Friday morning, at *Time* at *Location.***

**What to bring to camp is on the attached page**.

Camp will include activities like the following:

* Topics focus on decision-making, ethics, critical thinking, communicating effectively, team building, public service, contemporary problems, and career development;
* Camp features many challenging activities including workshops, speakers, discussions, sports, and music. The outdoor activities include a multitude of simulations, called initiatives, each designed to help students learn about leadership;
* Participants are under the guidance of professional counselors and educators; Programs are conducted by highly trained, experienced leaders representing a wide-range of vocations;
* A typical day would include breakfast, 2 morning sessions, lunch, 2 afternoon sessions, dinner, and leadership skits. A voluntary chapel service will be held on Sunday.

I look forward to seeing you at RYLA! If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

*Your Name
Your Email Address
Your Phone Number*

**What to Bring to RYLA Camp**

The RYLA camp is a dynamic mixture of upbeat speakers and exciting, outdoor leadership exercises. Because of this dichotomy, RYLA participants should bring clothing for **active outdoor wear** as well as a “dress up” (jeans, khakis, shirt with collar, etc.) outfit for Sunday Chapel and closing.

**NOTE: Participants should be prepared for weather extremes (rain, snow, cold).**

Necessary items to bring to camp:

* 2 Pairs of Old jeans
* 2 Warm Old Long Sleeve Shirts or Sweatshirts
* 3 T-Shirts
* 2 Pairs of Warm Socks
* 1 Pair of Old Shoes or Boots
* 1 Warm Old Coat
* 1 Pair of Old Gloves
* 1 Warm Hat
* 1 “Dress Up” Outfit for Sunday
* 1 Flashlight
* Rain Gear
* Toiletries
* Sunscreen
* Alarm Clock
* Sleeping Bag, Pillow, Sleep Clothes
* Towel
* 1 Water Bottle
* Optional: Camera, Insect Repellant, and Spending Money for Snacks, etc.

The expectation of having a great experience!

**PLEASE NOTE: The use of iPods, cell phones, or other digital devices is prohibited. If iPods, cell phones, or other digital devices are used at camp, we will confiscate them.**

Also, do NOT bring alcoholic beverages, knives, axes, saws, aerosol cans, skates, skateboards, firearms, glass bottles, etc. Use common sense.

Camp Tecumseh is located about 20 minutes north of Lafayette, off of State Road 18.

**In case of an emergency and a need arises to call camp, the following number can be used: 765-564-2898.**