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Almaden Valley Rotary Invests in the Future

San Jose, Ca, USA – What is RYLA? It stands for Rotary Youth Leadership Awards, which is Rotary's training program for young leaders, emphasizing leadership, citizenship and personal growth.

RYLA was officially adopted by Rotary International in 1971, and is one of the most significant and fastestgrowing programs of Rotary service. RYLA participants often go on to become Youth Exchange students or Ambassadorial Scholars.

RYLA aims to:

Demonstrate Rotary's respect and concern for youth; Provide an effective training experience for selected youth and potential leaders;

Encourage leadership of youth by youth; and

Recognize publicly young people who are rendering service to their communities.

Each year, thousands of young people take part in the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) program worldwide. Young high school students chosen for their leadership potential attend an all-expenses-paid 5 day camp at Camp Campbell to discuss leadership skills and to learn those skills through practice. Rotary clubs and districts select participants and facilitate the event's curriculum. This year the Rotary Club of Almaden Valley sent three students from Oak Grove High School to RYLA because it strongly believes in the future of our youth. The students were asked to attend one of their meetings to share their experiences.

The following comments were made:

The skills we learned apply to a lifetime It was beyond all expectations New friendships were made Glad they went

It is said about RYLA that "From the outside you can't imagine it, and from the inside you can't explain it."

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Amanda Tran, Rodrigo (RJ) Jiminez, Rheshell Ramos, three Oak Grove High School students who were sent to RYLA by the Rotary Club of Almaden Valley

