

Educational Reading #1

Interact and Rotaract – Developing Tomorrow's Leaders

Rotary believes leadership should begin long before adulthood. That is why it sponsors two outstanding youth organizations: Interact and Rotaract.

Interact serves students between the ages of 12 and 18. Sponsored by local Rotary clubs, Interact clubs encourage young people to develop leadership skills while serving their schools and communities.

Every Interact club completes at least two service projects each year—one benefiting the local community and another promoting international understanding. These projects teach teamwork, planning, budgeting, communication, and volunteerism.

Rotaract was originally created for young adults but has evolved into a full Rotary membership type for adults ages 18 and older. Rotaractors lead their own clubs, elect officers, manage projects, and often work alongside Rotary clubs on community service initiatives.

Many Rotaract clubs focus on professional development as well as service. Members gain experience in public speaking, event planning, networking, fundraising, and project management—skills that benefit them throughout their careers.

Rotary clubs frequently mentor both Interactors and Rotaractors. These relationships create a leadership pipeline in which experienced Rotarians guide younger members while learning from their energy and fresh ideas.

Many lifelong Rotarians first became involved through Interact or Rotaract. These organizations introduce young people to Rotary's values of Service Above Self, ethical leadership, diversity, inclusion, and international understanding.

The future of Rotary depends on engaging younger generations. By investing in Interact and Rotaract today, Rotary ensures that future communities will have capable leaders committed to making a positive difference.