



Rotary Youth Exchange  
The Youth Exchange Program is a unique, enriching experience that allows young people to live and study in a foreign country for a period of 1-2 years. Participants gain a deeper understanding of their own culture and the culture of the host country, while also developing language skills and leadership abilities. The program is open to students aged 17-25 who are currently enrolled in high school or college. For more information, visit [rotary.org/youthexchange](#).



Rotary International  
Rotary International is a global organization of business and professional leaders who work together to improve lives and create a better world. We are currently looking for new members to join our clubs. For more information, visit [rotary.org](#).



The Youth Scholarship  
The Youth Scholarship Program is a unique, enriching experience that allows young people to live and study in a foreign country for a period of 1-2 years. Participants gain a deeper understanding of their own culture and the culture of the host country, while also developing language skills and leadership abilities. The program is open to students aged 17-25 who are currently enrolled in high school or college. For more information, visit [rotary.org/youthscholarship](#).



GOVERNOR'S AWARD  
MEMBERSHIP - TOP 100  
CARROLLTON OIVANBREAKERS  
SUNNYBROOK  
GREEN GLENVIEW  
MERIDETH COUNTY  
RICHMOND



Group photo of people outdoors, likely a Rotary club event.



Rotary  
IMAGINE ROTARY



Group photo of people, likely a Rotary club event.



Group photo of people, likely a Rotary club event.



What is in the World?  
RYLA?  
Let me tell your club all about it!



Rotary MEMBERSHIP CITATION



ANNUAL FUNDS GIVING  
2022-2023  
\$106,101  
\$66,460  
\$58,300  
\$300+ PER CAPITA  
\$1,181.90  
\$783.84  
\$742.59



PUBLIC IMAGE CITATION



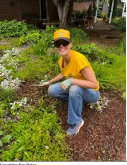
Sunshine Division



Marvellous Melbourne Welcomes You in 2023



CULTURAL CENTER



Person sitting in a garden, likely a Rotary club member.

Home	Rotary International
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From Our District Governor

## Imagine the Power of Education and Literacy



District Governor George Granade joins welcome for this year's Rotary Youth Exchange students

Rotarians work all year round to support education and literacy, but it's a special focus of Rotary International in September. Education is for everyone and there are several places we can improve our Rotary education. Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) is an excellent place to start. RLI is both in person and by Zoom. The courses in RLI cover the basic information about Rotary and one can meet other Rotarians to exchange ideas. You can also visit the Learning Center at [My.Rotary.org](https://www.rotary.org/en/MyRotaryOrg) to learn about Rotary - with plenty of courses about all areas of Rotary as well as Toastmasters classes.

We offer many opportunities to support education for young people - through the work we do at local

schools, specific Rotary programs for youth, Georgia Laws of Life, and at the college level, the Georgia Rotary Student Program. I recently had the privilege to attend welcome events for this year's incoming Rotary Youth Exchange students and GRSP students - and I'm looking forward to seeing more of these young people - and proud of all we do to support education and peace through those programs!

Let's focus for a minute on Rotary Youth Exchange and RYLA.

Rotary Youth Exchange is available for our high school students - giving students the opportunity to study abroad for a school year. They must learn a new language and become proficient with that language before leaving for the country. When students arrive in their host country, they learn about that culture and share our culture with the host families and friends they make. From this experience, the student develops lifelong leadership skills, learns a new language and culture, builds lasting friendships with young people from around the world, and becomes a global citizen.

Rotary Youth Leadership Award (RYLA) is for high school students to:

- build communication and problem-solving skills
- discover strategies for becoming a dynamic leader in their school or community
- learn from community leaders, inspirational speakers, and peer mentors
- unlock their potential to turn motivation into action
- have fun and create lasting friendships

Rotary clubs in District 6900 all work on improving literacy in their communities. Some clubs buy dictionaries for grade school students. Others are mentors by reading to students or assisting them with their school projects. Other Rotary clubs are partnering with their school systems to build better educational services. Some clubs offer financial assistance to technical college students so they can get their GED. We have clubs that provide financial support to the Georgia Laws of Life to sponsor schools to write essays on a quotation or saying that is dear to the high school student.

**PHOTOS:**



DG George and the D6910 and 6920 DGs at the GRSP Conclave this August

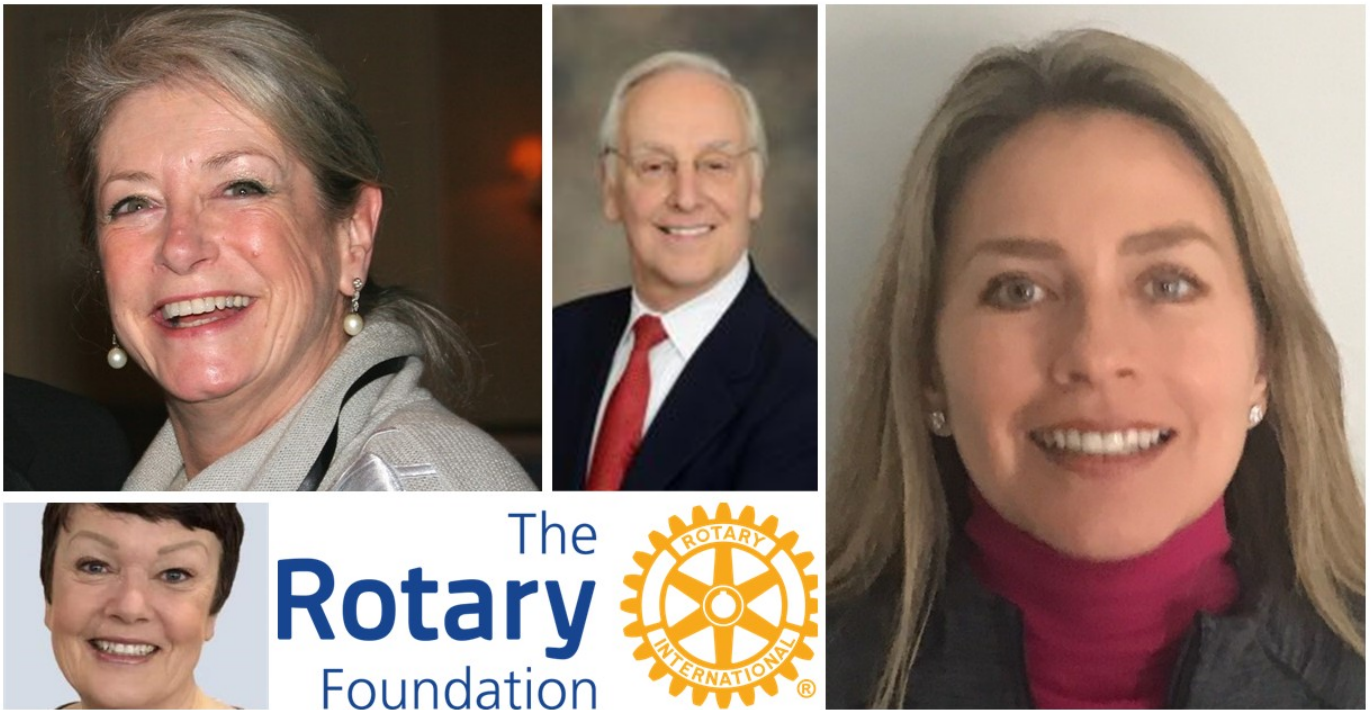
Posted by George Granade  
September 1, 2022

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Our Rotary Foundation

## **Meet Your Rotary Foundation District Team 2023**

by Anne Glenn, District Rotary Foundation Chair 2023-2026



Clockwise from top left: Anne Glenn, Will MacArthur, Olga Narvaez and Gillian Leggett

Hello! In August, your District 6900 Rotary Foundation Team was completely focused on getting our District's local Club and Competitive Grant funding to all Rotarians who submitted projects. We are especially grateful to Gillian Leggett, District Grants Chair, and Will MacArthur, Foundation Treasurer, for their dedication and continued work through this challenging process. This year, District 6900 imagines 53 projects in our local communities with a value of \$132,000. All these funds were donated by generous Rotarians in our District approximately three years ago.

We also look forward to initiating new Global Grant and Scholarship applications, beginning now. As we did last year, we ask any Clubs who plan to apply for a Global Grant in the 2023 Rotary Year to submit a brief summary of the project they Imagine along with a budget and timeline to me ([adillardglenn@gmail.com](mailto:adillardglenn@gmail.com)). We will present all your requests to our Foundation Grants Committee during our September meeting and begin allocating the funds we have available (another \$262,500). It is really important that you tell us what you plan now to have the best chance of receiving the funds you want for your projects. Last year, all our Global Grant funds for 2022 were committed during the September meeting. Olga Narvaez is joining your District Foundation team as Global Grants Chair and is available to work with all clubs and me as you prepare and plan your applications.

One of my personal goals this year is to include every D6900 Rotary Club in a global grant project if they wish to participate. We are asking clubs who wish to submit applications for projects this year to reach out to other Clubs for assistance with planning, funding, and actually working in the project. As we kick off this year, your Foundation Team plans to publish a list of prospective GG Projects and the contact information in the District Newsletter monthly and post it on the D6900 website.

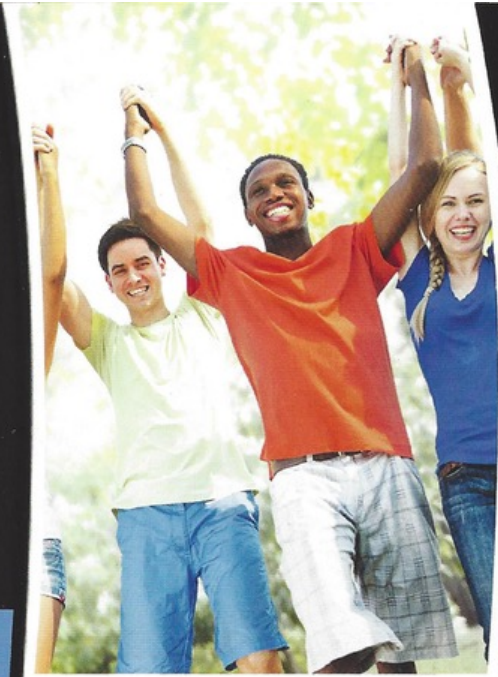
Thank all of you for the "Good" you bring to our World.

Posted by Anne Glenn  
September 1, 2022

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Rotary Youth Exchange

## **Applications Now Open for 2023-24 Rotary Youth Exchange Scholarships**



# The Youth Exchange Scholarship

provided by your local Rotary Club



**Valued at over \$24,000:**

Room, board, tuition, and monthly stipend for a high school year abroad.

**Have you always dreamed of...**

- ▶ Traveling the world?
- ▶ Living in another country?
- ▶ Being fluent in another language?

**The Rotary Youth Exchange Scholarship**  
(one academic year)

*The Youth Exchange Scholarships are made possible by the generosity of our overseas partners and local Rotary clubs in Rotary District 6900 (Greater Atlanta and west Georgia). Qualified applicants must be ages 15-18 ½ at the time of departure. The scholarships cover room, board, tuition, and a monthly stipend for one academic year. The student/family pays for the airfare, insurance, and some other fees.*



**RYESE.org**

Applications for the District 6900 Rotary Youth Exchange scholarships for the 2023 - 2024 school year are

open now. Each scholarship is valued at \$24,000 and gives Georgia high school students an opportunity to study abroad. Rotary clubs can award the scholarships at no cost to the club.

Before applying for the scholarships, Georgia high school students and their parents must attend an Informational Session. Those sessions are being held in the greater Atlanta area in August and September. The application deadline is October 14, 2022. See details below. Students and parents should attend the session together. For more information and to register for the information session of your choice students and parents should visit [RYESE.org/district-6900](https://ryese.org/district-6900).

The Rotary Youth Exchange scholarship is available to high school students, aged 14 - 17 at the time of application, who reside and attend high school in Rotary's District 6900. More than 10,000 high school students around the world participate each year. Children and grandchildren of Rotarians may apply for the scholarship as well. To date, District 6900 has awarded more than \$975,000.00 worth of study abroad scholarships to Georgia teenagers through the Rotary Youth Exchange program. If you know of any young people who may be interested in the scholarship opportunity, please encourage them to visit our website or follow us on social media @RYE6900. Rotarians can learn more about the program at [Rotary6900.org/RYE](https://Rotary6900.org/RYE).

#### **Upcoming Student and Parent Information Sessions:**

##### ***Johns Creek: Tuesday, September 20, 2022, 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM***

Emory Johns Creek Hospital  
6325 HOSPITAL PKWY  
JOHNS CREEK GA 30097-5775

##### ***Decatur: Wednesday, September 21, 2022, 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM***

Decatur Library  
215 SYCAMORE ST  
DECATUR GA 30030-3413

Posted by Mike Parks  
September 2, 2022

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## **Celebrating All We Accomplished in 2021-22!**

# GOVERNOR'S AWARD ENTERPRISE - TOP 10%

Rotary  
District 6900



CARROLLTON DAWNBREAKERS  
DUNWOODY  
GRIFFIN  
GRIFFIN DAYBREAK  
LAGRANGE  
MERIWETHER COUNTY  
ROSWELL



Congratulations to the recipients of the Governor's Award - Enterprise (Top 10%), Discovery (Top 25%) and ENDEAVOR (Top 50%). These clubs focused on our fundamentals of Learning, Planning, and Growing More to Do More in 2021-2022. With the efforts of these clubs and the many others across our district, we were able to donate over \$1.2M to the Rotary Foundation, posted over 8000 volunteers and over 45,000 volunteer hours. Our district also contributed to our zone being #3 in Polio Plus giving, #8 in Per Capita giving and #9 in total giving across 34 zones.

Special recognition to our clubs who have been trending with net growth for 2+ years - **Griffin Daybreak, Henry County, Moultrie, Peachtree City, Senoia, Stone Mountain and Tucker**; 4+ Years - **Emory-Druid Hills** and 5+ years - **Alpharetta, North Cobb and Paulding County**.

Thanks to all District 6900 Rotarians who made this a phenomenal year and a special thanks to District Governor Mary Ligon for her leadership! #GrowMore #DoMore #ShareMore #ServetoChangeLives

**PHOTOS:**

# GOVERNOR'S AWARD DISCOVERY - TOP 25%

Rotary  
District 6900



ALPHARETTA  
AMERICUS  
HARRIS COUNTY  
MARIETTA METRO  
MIDTOWN ATLANTA  
MOULTRIE  
PEACHTREE CITY  
THOMASVILLE  
TUCKER  
VININGS CUMBERLAND



# GOVERNOR'S AWARD ENDEAVOR - TOP 50%

Rotary  
District 6900



Atlanta West End \* Barnesville  
Blakely \* Columbus \* East Cobb  
Emory-Druid Hills  
Lake Spivey/Clayton County  
Marietta \* Muscogee-Columbus  
Newnan \* North Columbus  
North Fulton \* Sandy Springs  
Stone Mountain



Posted by Mandy Timmons  
September 1, 2022

GRSP Update

## **Georgia's Outbound GRSP Scholars Study, Explore Oslo in Summer Session**

by Kathyeryne Fields, GRSP Program Director



Five college students from Georgia departed Norway early August 5th agreeing their time together has been memorable, educational and went by far too fast.

The Georgia Rotary Student Program (GRSP) scholarships were offered with a longstanding partnership with Rotarians of Oslo and the International Summer School at the University of Oslo.

Sarah Grace Thompson (Berry College) of **Peachtree City** and Nicole Emily Kincaid (Columbus State University) of **Columbus** represented District 6900 while Camille Lagin Calkins (Wake Forest University) of Gainesville and Morgan Ashley Suzanne Parker (University of North Georgia) of Social Circle represented District 6910 and Emily Flemming Rogers (University of Georgia) of Augusta represented District 6920.

The six-week program from June 27 to August 5, 2022 included air fares to and from Georgia, room, board, 12-credit hours of undergraduate coursework, administrative fees at the International Summer School at the University of Oslo plus an excursion and meal with Norwegian Rotarian coordinator and host Sean Armana.

College students, ages 20-24, are welcome to submit an application with the recommendation of an active Rotarian in Georgia. Applications for Summer Session 2023 will open in October 2022 on the GRSP website, [www.GRSP.org/Oslo-application](http://www.GRSP.org/Oslo-application)

Posted by Kathyeryne Fields  
August 5, 2022

## Rotary Youth Exchange



IMAGINE  
ROTARY

Posted by Mandy Timmons  
September 2, 2022

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Rotary Youth Exchange

## Welcome Rotary Youth Exchange Students!

What a great weekend celebrating our Rotary Youth Exchange Inbound students for District 6900!

We are so thankful for the clubs participating in this year's program and especially to all of the host families for these students for the 2022-2023 academic year.

Students are being hosted from six countries and across seven clubs: **Agnes (Denmark / Peachtree City), Carla (Czechia / Decatur), Lulli (Italy / Buckhead), Camile (Belgium / Dunwoody), Elliott (France / Alpharetta), Pulse (Thailand / Dougherty County) and La Nieve (Thailand / Roswell).**

We look forward to learning and sharing our cultures to promote peace and friendship this year.

Thanks to Michael Parks (Program Chair), Kari Kirkley (Inbound Coordinator), Ash Gupta (Outbound Coordinator) and all of the Rotary Youth Exchange Volunteers across the district that support this program throughout the year!

Posted by Mandy Timmons  
September 2, 2022

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## GRSP Conclave Class of 2022-23



Posted by Katheryne Fields  
September 2, 2022

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## GRSP Conclave Ushers in Class of 2022-23

by Katheryne Fields, GRSP Program Director



Imagine ... the world becomes a little smaller when 44 international college students gather for one purpose~ to build peace through understanding. The Georgia Rotary Student Program ushered in the 2022-23 academic year at Conclave with students from 21 different countries, sponsored by 96 Rotary Clubs. The group made up of 17 males and 27 females sang about peace, shared skits about their homeland and learned about the expectations as a GRSP scholar in the prestigious 76-year nonprofit organization.

GRSP thanks the support of all three Georgia District Governors George Granade (Rotary District 6900), Gerry Taylor (Rotary District 6910) and Heather Kellen (Rotary District 6920) for their support along with DGN Gordon Owen (Rotary District 6900), DGE Brandy Swanson (Rotary District 6910) and DGN Todd Freesmann (Rotary District 6920). The Rotary Clubs of Forsyth, Gainesville, Hall County, Lanier-Forsyth and South Hall hosted Conclave at Lake Lanier Islands with GRSP District 6910 Director Bill St. Clair as chair.

GRSP Chair J. Michael Sweigart presented Bert Guy with a proclamation naming him chair emeritus for his significant contributions to the organization. Vice Chair Ian Bond named his successor Kerry Arnold as District 6900 Chair as Arnold was elected by his respective district trustees.

The next event on the GRSP calendar features the Maynard Knestrick Memorial Weekend hosted by the Rotary Clubs of Lake Spivey/Clayton County, Henry County, Griffin, Griffin Daybreak and Atlanta Southern Crescent at the Clayton County International Park September 9 to 11.

**PHOTOS:**



Posted by Kathyryne Fields  
September 2, 2022

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RYLA

**Want to Know More About RYLA?**

What in the world is

**RYLA**?



*Jaclyn Donovan*  
District 6900 RYLA Chair

**Let me tell  
your club  
all about it!**

If your club has never participated in the Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) program - or if it's been a while - and you'd like to know more, all you have to do is invite Jaclyn Donovan to visit your club. She'll be happy to share with you about all things RYLA and the great opportunities it could provide for young leaders in your communities.

Posted by Jaclyn Donovan  
September 1, 2022

Congratulations!

**Grow More Awards for 2021-22**

Rotary  
Zone 34



# MEMBERSHIP CITATION



Rotary  
Atlanta Southern Crescent



Rotary  
Meriwether County



Rotary  
North Cobb



Rotary  
Peachtree City



Rotary  
Roswell



Rotary  
Carrollton Dawnbreakers



Rotary  
Griffin



Congratulations to Zone 34 Membership Citation Winners! These clubs obtained points throughout the year in the areas of new visitors to their clubs, new member inductions, having a member retention program, social recruiting events and extra points for doing all four!

Keep up the great work! #GROWMORE

Posted by Mandy Timmons  
September 2, 2022

Congratulations!

**Do More Awards for 2021-22**

# ANNUAL FUND GIVING

Rotary  **\$106,101**  
Roswell

Rotary  **\$68,660**  
Peachtree City

Rotary  **\$58,300**  
Atlanta

## \$200+ PER CAPITA

Rotary  **\$1,181.90**  
Smyrna

Rotary  **\$763.54**  
Muscoogie-Columbus

Rotary  **\$742.59**  
Cairo



Congratulations to D6900 Annual Fund / Per Capita Giving Winners! District 6900 was #39 in the top 50 districts with annual giving to The Rotary Foundation totaling \$1,223,435 for 2021-2022. These clubs were the top three in the district in total giving and the top three with per capita giving. These funds will circulate back to our district over the next three years for us to continue #DoingGoodintheWorld! #DOMORE

Posted by Mandy Timmons  
September 2, 2022

Congratulations!

**Share More Awards for 2021-22**

# PUBLIC IMAGE CITATION



Cordele \*\* Douglas County  
Meriwether County \*\* North Cobb  
Peachtree City \*\* Smyrna \*\* Vinings



Barnesville  
Moultrie



Carrollton-Dawnbreakers \*\* Columbus  
Dunwoody \*\* Fayette Daybreak  
Fayetteville \*\* Lagrange \*\* Tucker  
Lake Spivey / Clayton County



Congratulations to Zone 34 Public Image Citation Winners! These clubs completed multiple levels of public image activities in 2021-2022. From social media to news articles, radio advertising to website updates, these teams did the work last year to showcase how we are #PeopleofAction! #SHAREMORE

Posted by Mandy Timmons  
September 2, 2022

Rotary Leadership Institute

**Check Out This Opportunity to Learn, Grow, Share and Lead!**



RLI is going strong in District 6900! We have another opportunity for you to Learn, Grow, Share and Lead on **November 19, 2022** in Kennesaw, Georgia. Registration is now open to all Rotarians for Parts 1, 2, and 3 for this next District 6900 Rotary Leadership Institute (RLI) that will be held at the Ben Robertson Community Center in Kennesaw, Georgia.

Some of the interesting leadership topics that will be discussed during our classes include Membership Engagement, Analyzing Your Rotary Club, Strategic Planning, Service Projects, Effective Leadership Strategies and the History of Rotary.

WHEN: Saturday, November 19, 2022, from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm.

WHERE: Ben Robertson Community Center, 2753 Watts Drive, Kennesaw, GA.

TO REGISTER: Go to [rlitraining.org](http://rlitraining.org) prior to our November 9, 2022 cutoff date.

FEE: \$100.00 per Rotarian - includes the class registration fee, course material notebook, breakfast, lunch, facility fees and the completion certificate.

We look forward to seeing you at our upcoming November 19th Rotary Leadership Institute!

Posted by Stephanie Windham  
September 4, 2022

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RI Convention 2023

**Take the Melbourne Four-Way Test ... and Join DG George for the 2023 Convention**

# Marvellous Melbourne Welcomes You in 2023

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION | 27-31 MAY 2023



Join us in Melbourne for great wine, penguins, koalas, kangaroos, sailing, and meeting many new Rotarian mates. DG George Granade and several District 6900 Rotarians have already registered for the RI Convention in Melbourne, Australia - May 27-31, 2023. We're looking at options for touring before or after the convention - and would love to have you as part of the District 6900 group. Use this Melbourne Four-Way Test to think about it.

1. **Is it the truth? Have you registered?** Here are the facts: You can register at <https://convention.rotary.org> Take advantage of the early bird pricing up to 15 December 2022 (\$475 for those 31 and older, \$125 for age 30 and under, \$20 for guests aged 5-18, guests under 5 are free). While you can reserve your hotel room once you have registered, we are looking at reserving a block of rooms and will provide information when we do. Tip: If you want easy access to the General Sessions, book a hotel close to the Rod Laver Arena. Melbourne's iconic tram network - the largest operational network in the world - is free for you within the central business district.
2. **Have you booked activities for all concerned?** Go to [www.Rotarymelbourne2023.org](http://www.Rotarymelbourne2023.org) and click on the Events tab to learn about and register for nightly events. Remember that General Sessions are from 10am to noon each day, followed by Breakout Sessions in the afternoon, along with entertainment at the giant House of Friendship.
3. **Will you build goodwill and better friendships by participating in a tour before or after the convention?** Yes! We are looking at possibilities of touring as a group and will keep you posted.
4. **Will it be beneficial to all concerned?** It most certainly will be beneficial to those who attend! You will have the opportunity to make new Rotary connections all over

the world and get new ideas to help you imagine how Rotary can better serve our local and global communities. This is a once in a lifetime opportunity! Did we mention the nice cool weather?

Watch for more information as we develop our strategy for making the most of this experience!

Posted by Lorri Christopher  
September 3, 2022

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Club News

## Free Art Boxes Help Kids Imagine Creativity



In partnership with the Rotary Club of Douglas County, The Cultural Arts Council of Douglasville/ Douglas County (CAC) recently added to its public art initiative with a new project -- a Free Art Box on the grounds of the Cultural Arts Center in Douglasville.

The colorful crayon box full of Free Art to be shared with the community was inspired by Little Free Libraries. The Free Art Boxes offer a place to give and receive free art and supplies. This new creative trend is rooted in the same magnanimous spirit as the Little Free Libraries, but instead of books being shared, it is pint-sized art, including paintings, drawings, pottery, yard works, doodles, and even painted

rocks. The concept is simple: Leave small art, take small art, or just enjoy. Our hope is that these Little Free Art Boxes will inspire the love of art, provide opportunities to create and meet someone new, and encourage appreciation for the arts in Douglas County.

The purpose of public art is to enrich the community and improve our quality of life through enriching the environment, igniting the imagination, and encouraging thought. Public art benefits the community through placemaking, bringing people together, and can be used as a tool in economic development. Public art can also strengthen personal connections to one's community.

In another project, the club donated 400 backpacks sporting the Rotary logo to a local agency that supplies food every Friday to elementary students in need. Volunteers with A Gift of Love fill the backpacks with non-perishable food items and send the backpacks home with students so that they have food to sustain them through the weekend. The students return the backpacks every Monday to be repacked for the following weekend. The Rotary Club of Douglas County is proud to partner with A Gift of Love on this important program which takes place throughout the school year.

Posted by Nell Boggs  
September 1, 2022

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Club News

## **Pine Mountain Middle School Memorial Garden Refreshed**



The **North Cobb Rotary Club** TEAMED UP with the Kennesaw Mountain Varsity Volleyball team to clean and freshen the Pine Mountain Middle School Memorial Garden, Kennesaw.

The Pine Mountain Memorial Garden was rededicated during the 2004-2005 school year to honor Jack Hensley, a Pine Mountain Middle School widely admired substitute teacher and parent. Mr. Hensley was one of three hostages kidnapped and killed while working in Iraq in the fall of 2004, garnering national and world-wide attention. Since then, many other beloved individuals of Pine Mountain Middle School have been memorialized in the garden.

Through the pandemic, the garden had fallen to over-growth. Principal David Nelson connected with the North Cobb Rotary, who stepped into action. They collaborated with the Kennesaw Mountain High Varsity Volleyball team, Edward Jones Financial, Home Depot - Acworth, and Chick-fil-A - Barrett Parkway to make this clean-up happen.

On Aug. 22, The North Cobb Rotarians and the Kennesaw Mountain Varsity Volleyball team clipped, cut,

raked, and pulled weeds. They pressure-washed structures and spread mulch. The results are remarkable! But - wait! - There's more!

Soon Phase 2 of the project will happen. The pergola, benches, and table will be painted by Kennesaw State University students, new plants will be installed, and additional mulch will be spread by Home Depot volunteers. This fall, a public re-dedication of the garden is being planned.

Posted by Nancy Prochaska  
September 2, 2022

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