

Rotary District 5100 Youth Exchange Speech Contest Information

The theme for the 2013 Contest is:

“Peace through Service”,

from RI President Sakuji Tanaka

Your speech will be given at the Rotary District 5100 Conference in April or May. All students are required to give a 5 minute speech; you may only use 3x5 note cards for reference and organization. No visuals, poster boards, or another students help is allowed for your presentation. You will be in a group of about 6 or more students as an audience and will be judged by at least 2 Rotarians or associates for the first round. After the initial round is completed, the top students of each group will be judged in a second round. Selection will then be made of the best 2 inbound and best 2 outbound students. The final winners will then give their speech on the evening of the talent show, either during the meal or interspersed during the talent show itself.

There are no excuses for not presenting your speech unless granted by the Youth Exchange Committee chairman. Arrangements must be made 7 days in advance with notice to Mark Derry, and Chairman Steve Schwab, for any request of absence.

Your speech is a learning experience, an opportunity for you to **“Show your Stuff”**, and to **give back to your hosting or sponsoring Rotary Club**. I also recommend that you give your speech at your local Rotary Club regular meeting sometime before you either return home or depart on your exchange. For outbounds, imagine giving your speech to your hosting Rotary Club with your newly learned language in a different culture and country!!! It would send a very powerful message of your successful desire to part of the Rotary Youth Exchange program and also a very big thank you to them!!

Your speech may be humorous, serious, something that you have experiences relating to the theme, or a story you weave into the topic as something you may have learned. I would recommend that you get help with a speech or English teacher at your school or somebody at your church, or maybe even a Rotary Club member you know who has given you some inspiration. Be creative, have fun composing your thoughts, and use different elements brought together in an outline and then refining it by practicing with your family or school friends. Remember to keep the speech as close to 5 minutes as possible. You should relate the theme several times into the speech, possibly using it to highlight specific passages that you feel are very important.

Take time to search on the internet on how to give a good speech, and maybe look at The Rotary International website at www.rotary.org or our District 5100 website, www.district5100.org for ideas that can stimulate your imagination.

Feel free to contact me at my e-mail address, derry@canby.com or call me on my cell, **503-830-5523**,

**Mark Derry, YEO- Mexico, Ecuador, Peru;
Speech Contest Coordinator**