



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **State College Downtown Rotary Club Awards Student Scholarships**

**State College, PA – May 25, 2010**

### **NEWS**

The State College Downtown Rotary Club has chosen four high school students as recipients for the 2010 Rotary Youth Leadership Awards (RYLA) scholarships. Caleb Andrew (State College), Sara Birmingham (Port Matilda), Daniel Cohen (Boalsburg), and Sara Marchione (State College) will participate in the four-day RYLA leadership training program at Juniata College in Huntingdon from June 13-16.

RYLA is an intensive training program for community youth leaders. Students learn about leadership from keynote speakers as well testing and refining their skills while working on group projects that they plan and carry out together as teams. The primary objectives are to teach the students about:

- Fundamentals of leadership;
- Ethics of positive leadership;
- Communication skills;
- Problem solving and conflict management;
- Rotary's purpose and service to the community;
- Building self confidence and self esteem; and
- Elements of community and global citizenship.

RYLA participants are high school juniors who have clearly demonstrated their leadership abilities and are considered by their teachers to be result-oriented students. The candidates are evaluated and selected by a committee of Rotarians based on their applications and written recommendations.

### **QUOTES**

"Our Club has always had a focus on our area youth since it chartered in 1986. We're pleased to participate in RYLA and give these students the

opportunity to attend." - *Don Bedell, President, State College Downtown Rotary Club and General Manager of the Centre County Gazette Newspaper*

"This Leadership program is a focus of Rotary District 7350 and we are delighted to have the chance to have our local students participate. Their feedback is overwhelmingly positive. Thanks to Shirley Donovan and the SCASD Learning Enrichment program for helping us select such terrific kids." - *Richard Jones, State College Downtown Rotary Club 2010 RYLA Chair and First Vice President of Morgan Stanley Smith Barney*

To learn more about Rotary International and RYLA, visit the web sites at:

[http://www.rotary.org/en/StudentsAndYouth/YouthPrograms/RotaryYouthLeadershipAwards\(RYLA\)](http://www.rotary.org/en/StudentsAndYouth/YouthPrograms/RotaryYouthLeadershipAwards(RYLA)) or contact a member of the Rotary club in your community.

The Downtown State College Rotary Club is one of five State College area Rotary clubs, including one each in neighboring Pleasant Gap and Bellefonte. The clubs are part of Rotary International, which has 1.2 million members in 33,000 clubs world-wide who remain dedicated to volunteer community service, promoting high ethical standards in all vocations and furthering international peace.

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