

RMYLC was a special moment for me as a kid on the verge of becoming an adult because I felt seen and recognized.



As a student at RMYLC, I loved meeting other students with similar interests, learning to raise the American flag with a team ROTC style, and participating in mock trials to better understand the U.S. Constitution.

As a counselor, it was a wonderful exercise to put our leadership skills to the test. There is something about being trusted 100% with developing the activities and organization of such an important event by elders that you respect that bolsters your confidence in a very unique way.

They believed we could and so we did. And when you are given the chance to do something that stretches your skills, it gets you ready for harder and more challenging tasks in the future.

Lastly, RMYLC was a wonderful opportunity to spend time with my elders and for them to spend time with an upcoming generation. I think we all learned things from each other and dispelled myths and reputations. I made life-long friends and very unique memories that have stood the test of time.

The leadership skills I learned as a student of RMYLC and then honed as a counselor served me very well as I made the transition to college and the work place.

*[Ed.] Hilary is a graduate of Colgate University, with a Bachelor of Science degree in Geology. She lives in Málaga, Spain with her husband and three sons. She completed a four-year post-graduate Registered Nursing degree, conducted entirely in Spanish (her third language) and is now employed as a nurse midwife.*