



2021 INTERNATIONAL ASSEMBLY **PROGRAM**

2021 VIRTUAL INTERNATIONAL ASSEMBLY PROGRAM

1-11 February 2021

Times presented are UTC, or Universal Time Coordinated, the basis for local times worldwide. Convert these times to your time zone by using the [Time Zone Converter](#) or a similar tool.

NOTE: Governors-elect will have a workshop, Practical Issues for Governors, on their schedule with their Club and District Support representative. Times will vary.

Partner sessions are shaded.

This program is subject to change.

GENERAL SESSIONS

All governors-elect, partners, and Rotaractors will attend general sessions together for approximately 60 minutes, **14:00-15:00 UTC**, throughout the assembly. General session rooms will open 30 minutes before the session starts. For participants unable to watch the broadcast live at 14:00 UTC, the broadcast will be recorded for viewing on demand.

GENERAL SESSION 1 — OUR YEAR AHEAD Monday, 1 February

Welcome to the first virtual International Assembly! Our Opening General Session will welcome you to our event and prepare you for what's ahead. You'll hear from Rotary senior leaders, and you'll be introduced to the International Assembly team that will guide you throughout our program. This session will leave you feeling ready and excited for what's to come — we can't wait to get started!

Welcome Remarks

Sangkoo Yun, International Assembly Moderator

Leadership in Uncertain Times

Holger Knaack, RI President

Introduction of the RI President-elect and Partner

Bryn Styles, Aide to the RI President-elect

2021-22 Theme Address

Shekhar Mehta, RI President-elect

PARTNER GENERAL SESSION — PARTNERS IN SERVICE **Tuesday, 2 February**

The importance of the partner role cannot be understated; you will be a crucial part of your partner's support network during their year as district governor. In this session, you will hear from individuals who have been district governor partners themselves, and inspirational speakers will share their stories. By hearing what worked for them, you will be able to better understand what will work for you. Above all, make the role your own!

Welcome Remarks

Susanne Knaack, Partner of the RI President

Introduction of the RI President-elect Partner

Randy Styles, Partner of the Aide to the RI President-elect

Our Journey Together

Rashi and Shekhar Mehta, Partner of the RI President-elect and RI President-elect

My Partner Experience

Shigemi Tatsuno, Partner of RI Director

My Partner Experience

Vinita Venkatesh, Partner of RI Director-elect

My Partner Experience

Nick Krayacich, Partner of the RI President-nominee

The Journey of Forgiveness — Destination Peace

Azim Khamisa, Founder of the Tariq Khamisa Foundation

GENERAL SESSION 2 — GROW ROTARY **Wednesday, 3 February**

How can we ensure that Rotary continues to thrive for years to come? How can we keep current members involved so that they stay with Rotary? Both of these questions — and many more — will be answered in our Second General Session. Featuring the voices of Rotarians, Rotaractors, and Rotary leaders from around the world, this session will provide valuable insights about membership and the importance of working together. Let's continue to grow and continue making a difference in the world!

Each One, Bring One

Shekhar Mehta, RI President-elect

Grow Rotary

Moderator

Jessie H. Harman, RI Director-elect

Panelists

Saeho David Chang, District Membership Committee Chair (District 3650)

Ramesh Hariharan, Past District Governor (District 5170)

Rosetti Nabbumba Nayenga, District Governor (District 9211)

Engagement and Retention

John Hewko, RI General Secretary and CEO

Our Partnership With Rotaract

Barry Rassin, Rotary Foundation Trustee and Past RI President

Nishita Pednekar, International Assembly Rotaract Moderator

GENERAL SESSION 3 — ROTARY RESPONDS **Friday, 5 February**

Since our founding, service has been the heart of what we do. It's who we are as Rotarians. Our Third General Session will present inspiring speeches from Rotarians who embody Service Above Self and individuals who have made an impact in their communities. You'll also learn how to take your service projects to the next level by sharing what we do. We are people of action, and we want the world to know!

Service and Presidential Initiatives

Shekhar Mehta, RI President-elect

Introduction of the RI Board of Directors

Holger Knaack, RI President

Our Service Success Story

Carmen Villalta, Supervisor Laboratorio Martínez Ponce; 2021 Rotary International Assembly Training Leader; Rotary Club of Real de Minas-Tegucigalpa, Honduras

Julio Cesar Villalta Rivera, Chief Financial Officer BANHPROVI;
Rotary Club of Real de Minas-Tegucigalpa, Honduras

My Service Success Story

Alexis Dellachiesa, Past President MDIO Rotaract France

My Service Success Story

Kamal Sanghvi, RI Director

Education for Empowerment

Elizabeth A. Usovicz, RI Director-elect

Empowering Girls

Alice P. Albright, Chief Executive Officer, Global Partnership for Education

Public Image/#PeopleofAction

Amanda Wendt, District Governor-nominee (District 9800)

GENERAL SESSION 4 — DOING GOOD IN THE WORLD **Saturday, 6 February**

Between fundraising, global grants, and getting involved with The Rotary Foundation, there are many different ways to make an impact. In our Fourth General Session, you'll hear from engaging speakers about how they used these tools to accomplish their goals. From individual service projects to our polio eradication campaign, this session has valuable information for projects at any level.

The Rotary Foundation: The Heart of Rotary

John F. Germ, Rotary Foundation Trustee Chair-elect

Introduction of The Rotary Foundation Trustees

K.R. "Ravi" Ravindran, Rotary Foundation Trustee Chair

Polio Update

Christopher Elias, MD, MPH, President, Global Development, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation

The Global Impact of Polio Eradication

Moderator

Asiimwe Patience, Past President of the Rotaract Club of Naguru, Uganda

Panelists

Dr. Tunji Funsho, Chair of the Nigeria National PolioPlus Committee

Aziz Memon, Rotary Foundation Trustee, Chair of the Pakistan National PolioPlus Committee

Global Grants for Maximum Impact
Dr. Shahul Hameed, District Rotary Foundation Chair (District 3310)

Support for Your Project
Sue Paget, CEO RFHA Inc.

GENERAL SESSION 5 — LEADING EFFECTIVELY **Monday, 8 February**

Rotarians are known for being leaders in their communities. Our Fifth General Session will dive into what it means to lead, how to lead in an inclusive manner, and how to cultivate leadership skills in both yourself and others. These insights will be the perfect preparation for your own Rotary leadership role — your year as district governor!

Leadership Development
Kalyan Banerjee, Past RI President

Making the Most of Your Skills
Nicki Scott, RI Director-elect

Creating an Inclusive Environment

Moderator
Valarie K. Wafer, RI Director

Panelists
Mahesh Kotbagi, RI Director-elect
Aikaterini Kotsali-Papadimitriou, RI Director
Ijeoma Pearl Okoro, Rotary Club of Port Harcourt (District 9141)

Listening to Your Members
Celeste Headlee, Journalist and Author

CLOSING GENERAL SESSION **Thursday, 11 February**

The Closing General Session will bring our exciting event to a conclusion with the help of our Rotary leadership. Reflect on what you've learned and take it with you into the future. Use it to make yourselves more effective district governors, and share it to develop the skills of those around you. After participating in our International Assembly program, you will be ready for the year to come. Thank you for joining us.

President's Remarks
Holger Knaack, RI President

President-nominee's Remarks
Jennifer Jones, RI President-nominee

2022 RI Convention Promotion
John C. Smarge, 2022 Rotary International Convention Committee Chair

Graduation Ceremony
Sangkoo Yun, International Assembly Moderator

President-elect's Closing Comments
Shekhar Mehta, RI President-elect

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

Participants have been divided into three groups for live breakout sessions based on a time-zone analysis of participants around the world and a recent survey of governors-elect and selected district Rotaract representatives. Therefore, each breakout is held at three times to ensure participants can attend at their local times. Links to breakout sessions for governors-elect and district Rotaract representatives can be found in the schedule in each attendee's dashboard.

Breakout 1 • Our Journey Together

This session will build on the Opening General Session with a discussion on the presidential theme, Rotary's goals, and how our Action Plan can be leveraged to build strong clubs, engage our members, attract prospective members, and meet our club and organizational goals. Participants will also reflect on the qualities of a leader, review leadership styles, and consider what type of leader they plan to be in the year ahead.

Monday, 1 February – 18:00-19:30 UTC

Tuesday, 2 February – 02:00-03:30 UTC and 14:00-15:30 UTC

Breakout 2 • Expanding Our Reach

Participants will discuss the state of membership in Rotary and Rotaract and methods for attracting and engaging young leaders and Rotaractors in their current clubs or helping them start new clubs that meet their needs. They will also discuss new club models and how to help club presidents eliminate the competitive attitude of new club formation to support new club growth and expansion.

Wednesday, 3 February – 18:00-19:00 UTC

Thursday, 4 February – 02:00-03:00 UTC and 14:00-15:00 UTC

Breakout 3 • #PeopleofAction

Participants will discuss the role of humanitarian service as the core of our organization, including a special focus in the coming year on how Rotarians can increase equity for girls around the world. In addition to making an impact through service, clubs need to skillfully promote their successes. Rotary's People of Action campaign is more than just templates in the Brand Center; it's a movement to tell the story of Rotary at the club and community levels. Participants will discuss ways to successfully tell Rotary's story and how to help club presidents show their local communities how Rotary changes lives.

Friday, 5 February – 15:30-16:45 UTC and 18:00-19:15 UTC

Saturday, 6 February – 02:00-03:15 UTC

Breakout 4 • The Impact of Our Service

This session explores the work of The Rotary Foundation including engaging Rotarians in fundraising and fund development to increase our impact in the world through grants. Participants will discuss areas of focus, global grants, and the roles of the district international service chair and the district resource network to develop successful project partnerships. Participants will also discuss what districts and clubs can do to support polio eradication efforts.

Saturday, 6 February – 18:00-19:30 UTC

Sunday, 7 February – 02:00-03:30 UTC and 14:00-15:30 UTC

Breakout 5 • Enhancing the Rotary Experience

Our organization has something for everyone — so why do some clubs struggle to grow and engage members? In this session, participants discuss the different attitudes our potential members bring to Rotary — those who want to make a difference in their communities, those who want a global experience, and those who look to Rotary for professional connections, among others — and how participants can leverage our programs and initiatives to spark a lifelong passion for Rotary.

Monday, 8 February – 18:00-19:00 UTC

Tuesday, 9 February – 02:00-03:00 UTC and 14:00-15:00 UTC

Breakout 6 • Ready, Set, ACTION!

In this closing session of the week, governors-elect and Rotaractors will discuss what they've learned during the International Assembly, reflect on the overall training experience, and share ideas for implementing what they learned when they go home.

Wednesday, 10 February – 14:00-15:00 UTC and 18:00-19:00 UTC

Thursday, 11 February – 02:00-03:00 UTC

Partner Breakout Session 1 • Sharing the Journey

In this session, partners will have a chance to introduce themselves and network with other participants. This session is split into two self-selected levels: beginner and advanced. Our beginner participants will focus on learning more about Rotary's structure and vision. Our advanced participants will take an in-depth look at Rotary's strategic plan. Both groups will spend time discussing the role of the governor and possibilities for their role as governor partner.

Thursday, 4 February – 14:00-15:15 UTC and 18:00-19:15 UTC

Friday, 5 February – 02:00-03:15 UTC

Partner Breakout Session 2 • Making an Impact

In this session, partners will discuss Rotary's membership, service, and Rotary Foundation programs and initiatives, with a focus on the involvement they can have as partners. This session will have beginner and advanced levels. The beginner level will focus on providing a high-level overview of membership and service initiatives, the works and accomplishments of the Foundation, and entry points for involvement. The advanced track will focus on the more advanced role participants can play in supporting membership, service, and the Foundation, either in their own club or district roles and/or as partner to the governor.

Tuesday, 9 February – 14:00-15:00 UTC and 18:00-19:00 UTC

Wednesday, 10 February – 02:00-03:00 UTC

NETWORKING AND GLOBAL CONNECTION

Participate in the following activities to meet other participants and begin to build relationships with one another:

Connect for Fellowship

Participants will be able to visit the networking lounge to participate in global chats with translation support. Opportunities for Zoom meet and greets will also be available throughout the event.

Discussion Forums

Participants will be able to visit the discussion forums to continue conversations from breakout sessions and discuss Rotary topics with a broader group of participants.

Connect for Culture

Participants will be able to visit a virtual cultural exchange and enjoy exhibits from different regions around the Rotary world.

Connect for Service

Participants have been invited to submit projects for which they are seeking partners for posting during the event. Participants will be able to view projects and communicate directly with project posters to begin discussions about partnership.

The Marketplace

Participants will be able to speak with RI staff. They'll have a chance to learn more about the 2021 Rotary International Convention and chat with the Houston Host Organization Committee to get excited about their convention and turn in attendance goals for the 2022 RI Convention in Houston, Texas, USA. Participants can also see the great items offered by Rotary-licensed vendors.