

Rotary Club of Ann Arbor Club Policies Pertaining To Programs & Speakers

The Rotary Club of Ann Arbor has many facets and levels of engagement with the community on a regional, national, and international level, and the speaker program supports these initiatives.

Through weekly speaker presentations, we engage our members and guests in an informative, interactive experience that shares important information on a myriad of topics.

Weekly presenters explore topics in the area of economy and finance, government, international affairs, education, arts and culture, science and medicine, and athletics.

Often our own members or colleagues from other Rotary Clubs present updates on local and international projects.

Consistently ranked in member surveys as an important aspect of Rotary's mission and values, our weekly speaker program attracts new members and supports retention. The program engages members of the community, increasing the visibility of Rotary and its mission, but also celebrates the work in our neighborhoods, businesses, and non-profit sector, and their collaborative impacts. Selecting presenters who reflect our club's mission and values, and the diversity in our communities and global world challenges us to find new ways to serve and expand the impact of our initiatives.

Speaker nominations are submitted through the website and are reviewed monthly by the Program Committee. Three major limitations exist for potential candidates.

1. Politics. Current holders of political offices may speak — and it is in the club members' interest that they do speak -- except during the 12 months prior to the next election relative to that political office.

Otherwise, political candidates, appointed officials, and proponents of pending ballot proposals may not speak during that 12-month period.

2. Promotion. Selling or promoting of products, tickets, donations, etc., is not permitted. At the discretion of the Program Committee, book signing and selling will be reviewed on a case by case basis.
3. Controversy. The program committee has a dual responsibility regarding topics that may appear to be controversial or divisive: the primary responsibility is to present programs that address important topics and speakers, including those with whom members may or may not entirely agree. The exception: to avoid programs that might be so offensive, for any reason, as to have a significant impact on attendance or membership.

Any questions or comments relative to the Program Committee guidelines above should be directed to the Program Committee Chair.

Approved by RCAA Board: 11/20/2024
Next Policy Review Date: November, 2026