



AMERICAN LEGION JERSEY BOYS STATE

"A WEEK THAT SHAPES THE FUTURE"

Sponsored by THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF NEW JERSEY

JUNE 16-21, 2013; RIDER UNIVERSITY, Lawrenceville, NJ

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55 Essex County Rising-Seniors Attend American Legion Jersey Boys State *More than 325 New Jersey Communities Represented*

LAWRENCEVILLE, NJ – Today, 55 rising-seniors in high schools from Essex County arrived at the 68th session of American Legion Jersey Boys State (ALJBS) at Rider University in Lawrenceville, NJ. The program, sponsored by the American Legion Department of New Jersey, is a practical approach for teaching civics and government at the local, county and state level, including party politics.

“This week will shape the future for 967 young leaders at Jersey Boys State,” said David Bagatelle, Director of ALJBS. “Just ask Governor Chris Christie, Senator Robert Menendez, or Mayor Cory Booker, all of whom, attended this program when they were in high school.”

Statesmen will have the opportunity to govern and interact with other top-of-the-class peers from across New Jersey as they run their own mythical 51st state of the union from June 16-21. Within 24 hours each city will divide into political parties, elect a mayor and council from within their ranks. By the end of the session, statesmen will have filled the ranks of local, county, state governments, municipal courts and will elect two senators to serve at American Legion Boys Nation in Washington, D.C. later this summer.

Throughout the week-long program, statesmen are:

- Hearing from notable speakers including US Senate candidate and Newark Mayor Cory Booker, Congressman Leonard Lance, and NJ Assemblyman Herbert Conaway, Jr.
- Participating in a robust college fair featuring top national universities;
- Attending leadership seminars and training by United States Marine Corps and New Jersey State Police;
- Electing the 68th ALJBS Governor; and
- Electing two Boys Nation Senators who will represent New Jersey at the annual American Legion Jersey Boys Nation program in Washington D.C., from July 19-26, 2013.

Statesmen in Attendance (Alphabetical by Name)

Thomas Agaman, Belleville, Legion Post #299

Henry Ayala, Belleville, Legion Post #299

Joel Ayala, Belleville, Legion Post #299

Raymond Bracy, Montclair, Legion Post #251

Michael Caggiano, Fairfield, Legion Post #185

Jonathan Caplan, Nutley, Legion Post #70

Stefanos Crist, Morristown, Legion Post #201

Richard Delellis, Cedar Grove, Legion Post #185

Ryan Demgard, Nutley, Legion Post #70

Brian Devine, Nutley, Legion Post #70

Patrick Dudasik, Nutley, Legion Post #70

Jared Ebner, Livingston, Legion Post #201

Avery Federico, Belleville, Legion Post #299

Joseph Forte, Nutley, Legion Post #70

Santino Gabriele, Nutley, Legion Post #70

Matthew Garrity, Caldwell, Legion Post #185

Rohit George, West Orange, Legion Post #70

Garth Guthrie jr, Montclair, Legion Post #251

Joshua Hochman, Short Hills, Legion Post #279
Joseph Iannini, Nutley, Legion Post #70
Zachary Jones, Montclair, Legion Post #251
Noah Kambili, Maplewood, Legion Post #70
Jake Karp, Livingston, Legion Post #430
Kevin Kelly, Runnemede, Legion Post #201
Jack Kinney, West Caldwell, Legion Post #185
Brandon Kwan, Nutley, Legion Post #70
Justin Leandre, South Orange, Legion Post #70
Robert Lowe, Cedar Grove, Legion Post #185
Sahking Mathis, Montclair, Legion Post #251
Brendan Mcglone, Boonton, Legion Post #201
Michael Meechan, Nutley, Legion Post #70
Peter Meggali, Belleville, Legion Post #299
Patrick Minneci, Nutley, Legion Post #70
Stephen Morancie, West Orange, Legion Post #70
Joseph Nichols, Nutley, Legion Post #70
Jeremiah Nofrada, Blackwood, Legion Post #201
Christopher Palma, Nutley, Legion Post #70
Avery Panza, Montclair, Legion Post #251
Andrew Pappas, Roseland, Legion Post #185
Brian Parigi, Nutley, Legion Post #70
Nathan Peraino, Nutley, Legion Post #70
Nicholas Perrone, Nutley, Legion Post #70
Andrew Roberts, Nutley, Legion Post #70
Benjamin Rodriguez-vars, Montclair, Legion Post #251
Zain Shaikh, Short Hills, Legion Post #140
Jason Shaiman, Livingston, Legion Post #201
Jasper Shorter, Montclair, Legion Post #251
Jose Silva, Belleville, Legion Post #299
Dragos Stemate, Nutley, Legion Post #70
Fares Sukkar, Nutley, Legion Post #70
Phillip Torrizo, Belleville, Legion Post #299
Frank Ubaldo, Belleville, Legion Post #299
Peter Webster, Livingston, Legion Post #201
William Wenik, Short Hills, Legion Post #140
Tim Yassa, Nutley, Legion Post #70

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About American Legion Jersey Boys State (ALJBS)

In its 68th year, ALJBS is a week-long experience that educates, trains, and inspires New Jersey's youth so that each statesman may become a lifelong leader of character committed to service, respect, and Americanism. ALJBS is a college-level seminar that teaches citizenship, politics, and leadership to more than 1,000 rising-seniors in high school. ALJBS is among the most respected and selective educational programs of its kind in the country. All expenses are typically donated by a sponsoring American Legion Post, a local business, or a community-based organization. To learn more, please visit aljbs.org.