



# AMERICAN LEGION JERSEY BOYS STATE

*"A WEEK THAT SHAPES THE FUTURE"*

Sponsored by THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF NEW JERSEY

JUNE 22-27, 2014; RIDER UNIVERSITY, Lawrenceville, NJ

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## MEDIA ADVISORY

### Sen. Cory Booker to Address Jersey Boys State Tonight

LAWRENCEVILLE, NJ – Senator Cory Booker will deliver an address at the 69<sup>th</sup> session of American Legion Jersey Boys State (ALJBS), announced ALJBS Director David Bagatelle today. The general assembly will be held today, June 26, at 7:30 pm. Sen. Booker attended Jersey Boys State in 1986 as a delegate.

“I continue to reflect fondly on my experience at Boys State and still draw on the lessons learned in the program,” said Senator Booker. “Jersey Boys State is one of my inspirations for dedicating my life to public and community service. By encouraging our youth to be engaged members of our democratic system and teaching them the tenants of community engagement and civic service we enable them make our towns, our nation, and our world a better place.”

The Senator will speak to nearly 1,000 statesmen who are from more than 325 New Jersey communities.

“It’s an honor to have Sen. Booker, who hails from the Jersey Boys State Class of 1986, returning once again to shape the future for our statesmen,” said Bagatelle. “As an alumnus, Sen. Booker passionately believes in the values of Jersey Boys State and exemplifies the principles we seek to inspire in our statesmen.”

#### About Senator Booker

Senator Cory Booker is connected to the people he serves and the challenges they face every day. Since winning election to the United States Senate in October 2013, Cory has been innovative, persistent and put partisanship aside, working to create new jobs, improve economic opportunity for all New Jerseyans, speed the pace of Hurricane Sandy recovery and address the economic squeeze facing middle class families. Under his leadership as mayor, New Jersey’s largest city, Newark, not only entered its biggest period of economic growth since the 1960s, but it also saw a decline in crime and increases in affordable housing, green spaces and parks, educational opportunities and more efficient city services. Born in Washington, D.C., Cory was raised in Harrington Park in Bergen County, New Jersey. He earned bachelor's and master's degrees from Stanford University, where he also played for the football team. Cory ran a crisis hotline for students and worked with disadvantaged youth in East Palo Alto. He then attended Oxford University as a Rhodes Scholar where he ran a student tutoring and mentoring program in a disadvantaged community. Cory earned his law degree from Yale Law School, where he helped lead free legal clinics for New Haven residents.

#### About American Legion Jersey Boys State (ALJBS)

In its 69<sup>th</sup> year, ALJBS is a week-long experience that educates and motivates New Jersey’s youth so that each statesman may become a citizen leader dedicated to service, respect, and Americanism. Together, the delegates form the mythical “51st” state of the union each year, where they elect their own local, state, and national

representatives. Activities at ALJBS include legislative sessions, general assemblies, court proceedings, athletics, band, and career seminars, among many others. All expenses associated with attending ALJBS are typically donated by a sponsoring American Legion Post, a local business, or a community-based organization. To learn more, please visit [aljbs.org](http://aljbs.org).

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