



AMERICAN LEGION JERSEY BOYS STATE

"A Week That Shapes the Future"

Sponsored by THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF NEW JERSEY
JUNE 19-24, 2016; RIDER UNIVERSITY, Lawrenceville, NJ

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U.S. SEN. CORY BOOKER (D-NJ) TO ADDRESS JERSEY BOYS STATE

Former Statesman Returns to Program that Piqued Political Interests

LAWRENCEVILLE, NJ – Sen. Cory Booker (D-NJ) will be a keynote speaker during the 71st session of American Legion Jersey Boys State (ALJBS). Booker, a 1986 ALJBS alumnus, will appear in front of close to 1,000 rising high school seniors on Monday at 9 a.m. at Rider University.

"For generations, Boys State and Girls State have encouraged young men and women from across New Jersey to become civic-minded leaders committed to service and responsible citizenship," Booker said. "The valuable lessons of democracy and community engagement that are instilled through these programs will last a lifetime and help these young men and women make meaningful contributions to our nation. My time with Boys State inspired me to commit my life to public service, and I'm honored to be able to share that experience with New Jersey's future leaders."

Booker, the former Mayor of Newark, is an annual staple at ALJBS since he began his political career.

"It's an honor to have Sen. Cory 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 Cory Booker

Senator Cory Booker was elected to the United States Senate in October 2013 and was re-elected to a full-term in 2014. Booker 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.

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About American Legion Jersey Boys State (ALJBS)

In its 71st 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.