



AMERICAN LEGION JERSEY BOYS STATE

"A WEEK THAT SHAPES THE FUTURE"

Sponsored by THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF NEW JERSEY

JUNE 18—23, 2017; RIDER UNIVERSITY, Lawrence Twp., NJ

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FORTY-FIVE MONMOUTH COUNTY STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN AMERICAN LEGION JERSEY BOYS STATE

More than 325 communities represented at weeklong "government-in-action" program

LAWRENCEVILLE, NJ - Forty-five rising high school seniors from Monmouth county are attending the 72nd session of American Legion Jersey Boys State (ALJBS) held every year at Rider University. The college credit-qualified conference, sponsored by the American Legion Department of New Jersey, is one of the leading "government-in-action" program in the country. Statesmen are typically chosen and sponsored by local American Legion Posts and other community-based organizations.

"It's our honor to welcome 953 statesmen to Jersey Boys State," ALJBS Director David Bagatelle said. "American Legion Jersey Boys State shapes the future for so many young students, each year, who become our political, community, military, and business leaders."

Statesmen are afforded the opportunity to govern and interact with their peers from across New Jersey as they run their own mythical 51st state from June 18-23. Within 24 hours of their arrival to ALJBS, statesmen will have formed 18 mythical cities and two political parties to elect a mayor and city council to guide their city throughout the week. Each student has an opportunity to participate in the political party process by running for office, participating in friendly debate and voting in elections, among many other events. By the end of the week, the delegation will elect a new ALJBS Governor, Lieutenant Governor and two Boys Nation Senators, who will attend a national program in Washington, D.C. this summer.

Highlights include:

- Notable speakers this year include Lt. Gov. and Republican gubernatorial candidate Kim Guadagno, Sens. Bob Menendez and Cory Booker, U.S. Rep Leonard Lance, former Gov. Christie Whitman and ESPN analyst/NBA star Jay Williams
- Leadership and career seminars taught by business executives, military representatives, political consultants, law experts, journalists, and other professional experts;
- A college fair featuring more than 90 institutions from across the country;
- Election of the 72nd ALJBS Governor on Thursday, June 22; and
- Election of two Boys Nation Senators on Friday, June 23, who will represent New Jersey at the annual American Legion Boys Nation program in Washington D.C. this summer.

Notable ALJBS alumni include Gov. Chris Christie (Boys Nation Senator, 1979), Sen. Bob Menendez (1971), Sen. Cory Booker (1986), Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito (1967), Rep. Leonard Lance (1969) and Assemblyman Herbert Conaway (ALJBS Governor, 1980).

2017 Monmouth County Delegation

Collin Andersen, Rumson, Legion Post #168
Brian Bauer, Ocean Township, Legion Post #346
Jonathan Bayona, Eatontown, Legion Post #23
Christian Benedict, Middletown, Legion Post #338
Brendon Bennett, Red Bank, Legion Post #338
Zachary Bomba, Millstone, Legion Post #455
Mateus Bontempo, Eatontown, Legion Post #113
Nicholas Bryce, Neptune, Legion Post #346
Joel Burgos, Eatontown, Legion Post #23
Seamus Cochrane, Little Silver, Legion Post #168
Harry Corin, Belford, Legion Post #338
Owen Crane, Wall, Legion Post #346
Taylor Davis, Shark River Hills, Legion Post #346
Christopher DeVito, Tinton Falls, Legion Post #1013
Jack DiStefano, Middletown, Legion Post #338
Zachary Elwell, Perrinville, Legion Post #455
Stephen Fisher, Tinton Falls, Legion Post #2000
Jared Fox, Wall Township, Legion Post #346
Vasu Garg, Eatontown, Legion Post #325
Dean Hernandez, Tinton Falls, Legion Post #251
Mark Higgins, Tinton Falls, Legion Post #181
Robert Hillmann, Atlantic Highlands, Legion Post #141
Liam Hoagland, Colts Neck, Legion Post #23
Kirin Huang, Eatontown, Legion Post #188
Luke Huber, Middletown, Legion Post #515
Luke LaBianco, Tinton Falls, Legion Post #278
Andres Maldonado, Fair Haven, Legion Post #1013
Ryan Matlaga, Atlantic Highlands, Legion Post #141
James McNamara Jr., Freehold, Legion Post #54
Shane Mehr, Allenhurst, Legion Post #168
Yahya Naseem, Union Beach, Legion Post #23
Jonathan Nickel, Port Monmouth, Legion Post #515
Liam Nixon, Millstone Township, Legion Post #458
Nicholas Papaterpou, Millstone Township, Legion Post #455
Samuel Porozok, Allentown, Legion Post #455
William Rears, Millstone, Legion Post #455
Alejandro Saenz-Jativa, Eatontown, Legion Post #325
Robert Schandall, Freehold, Legion Post #54
Joseph Schwarz, Tinton Falls, Legion Post #325
Christopher Shaw, Allentown, Legion Post #455
Tommy Stuppi, Ocean Twp., Legion Post #346
Jake Winter, Tinton Falls, Legion Post #325
Stephen Zacks, Red Bank, Legion Post #168
Quincy Zawadzky, Brielle, Legion Post #5000
Jack Zemlanicky, Morganville, Legion Post #54

About American Legion Jersey Boys State (ALJBS)

In its 72nd 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 statesmen form a 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.