



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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42 Monmouth County Rising-Seniors Attend American Legion Jersey Boys State

More than 325 New Jersey Communities Represented

LAWRENCEVILLE, NJ – Today, 42 rising-seniors in high schools from Monmouth 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)

Dylan Anderson, Tinton Falls, Legion Post #325

Eyuel Asefa, Eatontown, Legion Post #0

Alex Baron, Eatontown, Legion Post #171

Thomas Battaglia, Eatontown, Legion Post #459

Kyle Bigornia, Manasquan, Legion Post #346

Christopher Brodsky, Rumson, Legion Post #168

Aidan Byrnes, Red Bank, Legion Post #338

Qawi Carmack, Neptune, Legion Post #346

Jake Clemetson, Tinton Falls, Legion Post #325

Jordan Cohen, Manalapan, Legion Post #54

David D'agostino, Manasquan, Legion Post #346

Edward DeLage, Tinton Falls, Legion Post #325

Jeffrey Diamant, Ocean, Legion Post #346

Kenneth Dioguardi, Manasquan, Legion Post #346

Joshua Feldman, Eatontown, Legion Post #325

Rayjohn Felicia, Neptune City, Legion Post #266
Joshua Ferry, Allenwood, Legion Post #346
Michael Finan, Fair Haven, Legion Post #338
Joseph Fitzgerald, Highlands, Legion Post #141
Lance Golden, Neptune, Legion Post #266
Matthew Gray, Red Bank, Legion Post #338
Sean Hennessy, Freehold, Legion Post #515
Ezza Hill, Keyport, Legion Post #207
Joseph Katerba, Monroe Township, Legion Post #0
Joseph Markovich, Hazlet, Legion Post #338
Eric Maxton, Tinton Falls, Legion Post #348
Christopher Mcgee, Middletown, Legion Post #338
John Milnes, Shrewsbury, Legion Post #168
Andrew Natanagara, Ocean, Legion Post #346
Ryan Onoshko, Point Pleasant, Legion Post #0
Nicolas Palermo, Estontown, Legion Post #325
Hunter Pearl, Holmdel, Legion Post #168
Peter Romero, Tinton Falls, Legion Post #325
Troy Salnick, Eatontown, Legion Post #325
Christopher Seidle, Neptune, Legion Post #79
Eli Shohet, Long Branch, Legion Post #168
Robert Speers, Howell, Legion Post #54
Michael Steward, Neptune, Legion Post #346
Tom Toman, Spring Lake, Legion Post #432
Michael Whalen, Eatontown, Legion Post #325
Hunter Wiedmyer, Highlands, Legion Post #141
Michael Wingate, Union Beach, Legion Post #23

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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.