



# 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

www.ALJBS.org @ALJBS f.com/ALJBS

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Ronald A. Berna Named Samsung Scholarship Nominee at American Legion Jersey Boys State

*Berna of Cinnaminson, NJ, Will Compete at National Level for \$20,000 Scholarship*

LAWRENCEVILLE, NJ – On Friday, June 21, the American Legion Jersey Boys State (ALJBS) announced Ronald A. Berna of Cinnaminson, NJ, as the New Jersey nominee to compete nationally for the annual Samsung American Legion Scholarship. The nominee, who was sponsored by American Legion Post #72, will receive a \$1,000 scholarship immediately and will be eligible for an annual \$20,000 scholarship. Berna was selected after a series of interviews and reviews of his academic record, community and extra-curricular involvement, and financial need. Berna was selected as the Jersey Boys State nominee from more than 150 applicants.

Since 1996, Samsung Corporation has awarded scholarships to Boys and Girls State delegates from across the country to show appreciation for U.S. veterans who came to Korea’s aid during the Korean War. The scholarship is limited to direct descendants or legally adopted children of a wartime veteran who served on active duty during at least one of the periods of war officially designated as eligibility dates for American Legion membership.

“We wish Ronald Berna the best of luck as he competes with other Boys and Girls State nominees,” said David Bagatelle, Director of American Legion Jersey Boys State. “We’re grateful to be able to honor our veterans, their service, and their families in every way we can.”

In addition to this award, ALJBS also named several other honors for this year’s session.

HONOR	NAME	HOMETOWN	LEGION POST #
Gordon A. Vreeland Award	Prajay Tipre	Princeton	148
Todd Eaton Award	Fravlin Munoz	Patterson	438
Harry V. Groome Award (staff)	Andrew Robertson	Bordentown	542

Throughout the week-long program, statesmen:

- Heard from notable speakers including US Senate candidate and Newark Mayor Cory Booker (ALJBS delegate, 1986), US Senate candidate Congressman Frank Pallone Jr., Congressman Leonard Lance (ALJBS delegate, 1969), and NJ Assemblyman Herbert Conaway, Jr. (ALJBS Governor, 1980);
- Participated in a robust college fair featuring 95 colleges and universities from across the nation;
- Attended leadership seminars and training by United States Marine Corps and New Jersey State Police;
- Elected the 68<sup>th</sup> ALJBS Governor; and
- Elected two Boys Nation Senators who will represent New Jersey at the annual American Legion Boys Nation program in Washington D.C., from July 19-26, 2013.

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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 nearly 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](http://aljbs.org).