



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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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 16, 2013

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17 Warren County Rising-Seniors Attend American Legion Jersey Boys State *More than 325 New Jersey Communities Represented*

LAWRENCEVILLE, NJ – Today, 17 rising-seniors in high schools from Warren 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)

Jacob Bryant, Hardwick, Legion Post #418

Daniel Burns, Columbia, Legion Post #418

Nathaniel Capone, Stewartsville, Legion Post #0

Jake Carlson, Belvidere, Legion Post #131

Nico Fluri, Blairstown, Legion Post #418

Garrett Foley, Washington, Legion Post #164

Paolo Gayan, Alpha, Legion Post #446

Kevin Hamm, Hackettstown, Legion Post #164

Brian Lake, Hackettstown, Legion Post #164

Daniel Martin, Stewartsville, Legion Post #457

Matthew Reper, Phillipsburg, Legion Post #446

James Ryan, Hackettstown, Legion Post #164

Joseph Sagan, Columbia, Legion Post #418

Lee Spinks, Washington, Legion Post #528

Matthew Weissman, Belvidere, Legion Post #131

Logan Welles, Belvidere, Legion Post #456

Andrew Westpy, Hackettstown, Legion Post #164

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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.