



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

LAWRENCEVILLE, NJ – Today, 55 rising-seniors in high schools from Somerset 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)

Matthew Ackerman, Hillsborough, Legion Post #12

Matthew Altonji, Branchburg, Legion Post #12

Ryan Berger, Teaneck, Legion Post #12

Joseph Bruno-metzger, Bridgewater, Legion Post #507

Thomas Cahill, Hillsborough, Legion Post #12

Andrew Cavalieri, Hillsborough, Legion Post #12

Matthew Celeste, Watchung, Legion Post #293

Arvind Chandaka, Hillsborough, Legion Post #12

Alexander Chen, Belle Mead, Legion Post #12

John Ciraulo, Warren, Legion Post #293

Eli Davenport, South Bound Brook, Legion Post #363

Henry Forsythe, Rutherford, Legion Post #12

Marco Fratarcangeli, Skillman, Legion Post #12

John Paul Gavin, Warren, Legion Post #293

Joseph Green, Manville, Legion Post #304

Robert Johnson, Belle Mead, Legion Post #12

Stephen Johnson, Middlesex, Legion Post #63

Zachariah Jordan, Hillsborough, Legion Post #12
Max Kabat, Warren, Legion Post #293
Akshay Katakam, Green Brook, Legion Post #293
Ryan Kenny, Hillsborough, Legion Post #12
Thomas Klein, Hillsborough, Legion Post #12
Adam Kornberg, Belle Mead, Legion Post #12
Andrew Koury, Bridgewater, Legion Post #507
Tarik Labuda, Branchburg, Legion Post #12
Collin Litts, Branchburg, Legion Post #12
Nick Malinovsky, Gillette, Legion Post #293
Zachary Mayer, Belle Mead, Legion Post #12
William Minor, Skillman, Legion Post #12
Virag Mody, Belle Mead, Legion Post #12
Sebastian Munoz, North Plainfield, Legion Post #265
David Mupo, Warren, Legion Post #293
Matthew Muzzio, Branchburg, Legion Post #12
Andrew Negri, Warren, Legion Post #293
Amil Patel, Bridgewater, Legion Post #12
Carter Post, Hillsborough, Legion Post #12
Gregory Rizzo, Warren, Legion Post #293
Arian Rubio, Somerset, Legion Post #12
Dmitriy Ruckodanov, Princeton, Legion Post #12
Andrew Simmons, South Bound Brook, Legion Post #363
Brandon Slover, Bound Brook, Legion Post #63
Joseph Spence, Hillsborough, Legion Post #12
Justin Strnatko, Millington, Legion Post #293
Tyler Sudol, Skillman, Legion Post #12
Tayjus Surampudi, Hillsborough, Legion Post #12
Ross Sylvestri, Gillette, Legion Post #293
Gregory Tarca, Belle Mead, Legion Post #12
Seneca Velling, Millington, Legion Post #293
Stephen Villalobos, South Bound Brook, Legion Post #363
Joshua Voorhees, Warren, Legion Post #293
William Wang, Belle Mead, Legion Post #12
Jacob Wasserman, Warren, Legion Post #293
David Wasserstein, Warren, Legion Post #293
Nicholas Youmans, Skillman, Legion Post #12
Adam Zylberman, Branchburg, Legion Post #12

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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.