



AMERICAN LEGION JERSEY BOYS STATE

"A WEEK THAT SHAPES THE FUTURE"

Sponsored by THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF NEW JERSEY

JUNE 22-27, 2014; RIDER UNIVERSITY, Lawrenceville, NJ

www.ALJBS.org @ALJBS [f.com/ALJBS](https://www.facebook.com/ALJBS)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 23, 2014

CONTACT: David Bagatelle, Director

director@aljbs.org, 646-408-1032

77 Morris County Students Attend American Legion Jersey Boys State *More than 325 New Jersey Communities Sent Delegates*

LAWRENCEVILLE, NJ – This week, 77 rising-seniors in high schools from Mercer County arrived at the 69th 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 an action-oriented approach for teaching civics and government at the local, county and state level.

"It's our honor to welcome 924 statesmen to Jersey Boys State," said David Bagatelle, Director of ALJBS. "The Jersey Boys State record of producing our state's leaders is strong including our current governor, Chris Christie, our senators, Robert Menendez and Cory Booker, and many other political leaders."

Statesmen will have the opportunity to govern and interact with their peers from across New Jersey as they run their own mythical 51st state of the union from June 22-27. 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, the state legislature, municipal courts and will elect two senators to serve at American Legion Boys Nation in Washington, D.C. later this summer.

Highlights throughout the week include:

- Notable speakers including Senator Robert Menendez, Congressman Leonard Lance, CBS 3 Philadelphia's Jessica Dean, US Senate candidate Jeffrey Bell, former Congressman Bob Inglis (SC), among many others;
- A college fair featuring nearly 100 institutions from across the country;
- Leadership and career seminars featuring business executives, military representatives, political consultants, law experts and journalists, among other professional experts;
- Election of the 69th ALJBS Governor on Thursday, June 26; and
- Election of two Boys Nation Senators on Friday June 27, who will represent New Jersey at the annual American Legion Boys Nation program in Washington D.C., from July 18-26, 2014.

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

Statesmen in Attendance (Alphabetical by Name)

Thomas Ackershoek, Pompton Plains, Legion Post #242
Jonathan Alcantara, Florham Park, Legion Post #43
Carlos Arias, Minehill, Legion Post #91
Mario Arocaceli, Dover, Legion Post #27
Pablo Audelo, Wharton, Legion Post #91
Eric Bartholomew, Whippany, Legion Post #155
Tucker Best, New Vernon, Legion Post #27
Daniel Blessing, Whippany, Legion Post #155
Maverick Breton, Dover, Legion Post #27
Andrew Carlon, Pompton Plains, Legion Post #242
Joshua Carr, Pompton Plains, Legion Post #242

Juan Concha, Rockaway, Legion Post #344
Christopher Cote, Rockaway, Legion Post #344
James Crimmins, Madison, Legion Post #43
Nicholas Czipo, Wharton, Legion Post #91
Michael De Senzo, Pompton Plains, Legion Post #450
Lucius Degregorio, Wyckoff, Legion Post #59
Brett Dericks, Pompton Plains, Legion Post #242
Chris DeSante, Chatham, Legion Post #43
Christopher DeSilvia, Pine Hill, Legion Post #43
Mark Dominguez, Lake Hopatcong, Legion Post #245
Justin Douville, Flanders, Legion Post #390
Noah Eckstein, Kinnelon, Legion Post #154
Daniel Evans, Mine Hill, Legion Post #391
Paul Femia, Kinnelon, Legion Post #450
Kevin Flood, Pequannock, Legion Post #450
Joshua Fortes, Parsippany, Legion Post #249
Jon Gamba, Florham Park, Legion Post #43
Nand Ganesh, Oak Ridge, Legion Post #245
Rohan Garg, East Hanover, Legion Post #421
Ganesh Gopalaiahgari, Rockaway, Legion Post #344
Matthew Grasso, Cedar Knolls, Legion Post #155
Nathan Gupta, Denville, Legion Post #390
Kentaro Hansen, Parsippany, Legion Post #27
Patrik Harsanyi, Lake Hopatcong, Legion Post #245
Ryan Hermann, Butler, Legion Post #154
Henry Hill, Wharton, Legion Post #91
Nathaniel Hirschman, Lake Hopatcong, Legion Post #245
Gabe Hollander, Madison, Legion Post #43
Timothy Horgan, Pompton Plains, Legion Post #450
William Horn, Pompton Plains, Legion Post #242
Dan Jachera, Pompton Plains, Legion Post #450
Patrick Jurewicz, Pompton Plains, Legion Post #450
Parker Kerrigan, Parsippany, Legion Post #249
Ryan Kim, Whippany, Legion Post #155
Viren Lad, Parsippany, Legion Post #249
Jeremiah Lake, Bloomingdale, Legion Post #154
David Lang, Lake Hopatcong, Legion Post #423
Luke Mayer, Morristown, Legion Post #59
Walter Mielarczyk, Pequannock, Legion Post #450
John Moran, East Hanover, Legion Post #421
Amrit Nagendran, Parsippany, Legion Post #249
Matthew O'Connor, Florham Park, Legion Post #43
Tyler O'Connor, Florham Park, Legion Post #43
Tyler Ponomarey, Pompton Plains, Legion Post #450
Peter Potash, Mendham, Legion Post #342
Michael Poulter, Cedar Knolls, Legion Post #155
Ross Randolph, Rockaway, Legion Post #344
Matthew Reda, Pequannock, Legion Post #450
Mark Richards, Mountain Lakes, Legion Post #249
Samuel Wray Rufino, Dover, Legion Post #27
Forrest Rusyniak, Rockaway, Legion Post #344
Harrison Samuels, Chatham, Legion Post #43
Paul Savoca, Wharton, Legion Post #91
Steven Schiffner, East Hanover, Legion Post #421
Andrew Sgalia, Dover, Legion Post #27
Casey Shoudy, Long Valley, Legion Post #342
Drew Slavik, Pompton Plains, Legion Post #450
Brandon Sookraj, Wharton, Legion Post #91
Sebastian Sosa, Wharton, Legion Post #91
Alexander Thomas, Butler, Legion Post #154
Robby Toth, Lake Hopatcong, Legion Post #423

Brian Wasik, Madison, Legion Post #43
Daniel Weinbaum, Florham Park, Legion Post #43
Zachary Whitmore, Denville, Legion Post #390
Stephen Williams, Long Valley, Legion Post #342
Justin Yeung, Pequannock, Legion Post #450

###

About American Legion Jersey Boys State (ALJBS)

In its 69th 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 delegates form the 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.