

"A WEEK THAT SHAPES THE FUTURE"

Sponsored by THE AMERICAN LEGION, DEPARTMENT OF NEW JERSEY

JUNE 18—23, 2017; RIDER UNIVERSITY, Lawrence Twp., NJ www.ALJBS.org

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SIXTY CAMDEN COUNTY STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN AMERICAN LEGION JERSEY BOYS STATE

More than 325 communities represented at weeklong "government-in-action" program

LAWRENCEVILLE, NJ - Sixty rising high school seniors from Camden county are attending the 72nd session of American Legion Jersey Boys State (ALJBS) held every year at Rider University. The college credit-qualified conference, sponsored by the American Legion Department of New Jersey, is one of the leading "government-in-action" program in the country. Statesman are typically chosen and sponsored by local American Legion Posts and other community-based organizations.

"It's our honor to welcome 953 statesmen to Jersey Boys State," ALJBS Director David Bagatelle said. "American Legion Jersey Boys State shapes the future for so many young students, each year, who become our political, community, military, and business leaders."

Statesmen are afforded the opportunity to govern and interact with their peers from across New Jersey as they run their own mythical 51st state from June 18-23. Within 24 hours of their arrival to ALJBS, statesmen will have formed 18 mythical cities and two political parties to elect a mayor and city council to guide their city throughout the week. Each student has an opportunity to participate in the political party process by running for office, participating in friendly debate and voting in elections, among many other events. By the end of the week, the delegation will elect a new ALJBS Governor, Lieutenant Governor and two Boys Nation Senators, who will attend a national program in Washington, D.C. this summer.

Highlights include:

- Notable speakers this year include Lt. Gov. and Republican gubernatorial candidate Kim Guadagno, Sens. Bob Menendez and Cory Booker, U.S. Rep Leonard Lance, former Gov. Christie Whitman and ESPN analyst/NBA star Jay Williams
- Leadership and career seminars taught by business executives, military representatives, political consultants, law experts, journalists, and other professional experts;
- A college fair featuring more than 90 institutions from across the country;
- Election of the 72nd ALJBS Governor on Thursday, June 22; and
- Election of two Boys Nation Senators on Friday, June 23, who will represent New Jersey at the annual American Legion Boys Nation program in Washington D.C. this summer.

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

2017 Camden County Delegation

Jacob Apicella, Audubon, Legion Post #262 Corey Avery, Blackwood, Legion Post #371 Jacob Bennett, Gloucester City, Legion Post #72 Dahmir Blakney, Woodlynne, Legion Post #17 Solomon Boukman, Haddon Township, Legion Post #230 Jonathan Calabrese, Cherry Hill, Legion Post #372 Ronald Cappuccio, Cherry Hill, Legion Post #372 William Ciemny, Haddonfield, Legion Post #38 Daniel Clifton, Gloucester City, Legion Post #72 Brogan Collins, Haddonfield, Legion Post #38 Robert Cooper, Gloucester City, Legion Post #72 William Cooper, Gloucester City, Legion Post #72 Caleb Corrigan, Atco, Legion Post #186 David Critch, Audubon, Legion Post #262 Anthony Daniel, Merchantville, Legion Post #68 Jonathan Diaz, Clementon, Legion Post #286 Xavier Diaz, Camden, Legion Post #473 Zach Dobinson, Runnemede, Legion Post #281 David Doyle, Haddonfield, Legion Post #38 Sammy Eap, Pennsauken, Legion Post #68 Gabriel Fanelle Rojek, Haddonfield, Legion Post #38 Aaron Finkelstein, Cherry Hill, Legion Post #372 Ryan Finnegan, Haddon Heights, Legion Post #38 Eric First, Cherry Hill, Legion Post #372 Jared Fisch, Cherry Hill, Legion Post #372 Jeremiah Garcia, Camden, Legion Post #242 Nicholas Hughes, Pennsauken, Legion Post #372 William Hunt, Collingswood, Legion Post #17 Noah Kaminer, Cherry Hill, Legion Post #372 Michael Kenny, Cherry Hill, Legion Post #372 Francis King, Gloucester City, Legion Post #152 Nathaniel Koss, Collingswood, Legion Post #17 Nirun Kumaresan, Sicklerville, Legion Post #281 Joshua Liss, Barrington, Legion Post #38 Marco Lopez, Audubon, Legion Post #262 Gianni Magazzu, West Berlin, Legion Post #286 William Marble, Cherry Hill, Legion Post #372 Edward McGlinn, Blackwood, Legion Post #251 Paul Mikalic, Cherry Hill, Legion Post #72 Spencer Mills, Clementon, Legion Post #286 Michael Minchak, Blackwood, Legion Post #129 Edward Moody, Haddon Heights, Legion Post #38 Sean Murphy, Haddon Heights, Legion Post #38 Khaled Mustafa, Clementon, Legion Post #281 Thomas Nguyen, Camden, NJ, Legion Post #68 Patrick Paglia, Haddon Township, Legion Post #230 David Pape Jr. Bellmawr. Legion Post #281 William Plianthos, Collingswood, Legion Post #17 Kelvin Rosario, camden, Legion Post #21 Conor Rybacki, Haddon Twp, Legion Post #109 Robert Saldutti, Cherry Hill, Legion Post #372 Michael Sheehan, Haddon Township, Legion Post #365 Noah Shepkosky, Bellmawr, Legion Post #281 Christopher Snyder, Haddon Heights, Legion Post #38 Liam Steacker, Sicklerville, Legion Post #281 Robert Sundstrom, Voorhees, Legion Post #371 Christopher Swack, Blackwood, Legion Post #281 Daniel Walker, Clementon, Legion Post #281 Ryan Watson, Cherry Hill, Legion Post #372 Joseph Wells, Mullica Hill, Legion Post #72

About American Legion Jersey Boys State (ALJBS)

In its 72nd 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 statesmen form a 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 <u>aljbs.org</u>.