



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

LAWRENCEVILLE, NJ – Today, 53 rising-seniors in high schools from Passaic 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 who attended Wayne High School in his youth and was originally sponsored by Legion Post 174 in Wayne. "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)

Daniel Abate, Totowa, Legion Post #227

Christopher Aguilar, Passaic, Legion Post #359

Joseph Ambrose, Clifton, Legion Post #347

Antonio Apolinario, Passaic, Legion Post #359

Ranfi Areche, Passaic, Legion Post #359

Richard Baldi, Wayne, Legion Post #174

Billy Bici, Totowa, Legion Post #227

Isaul Camano, Passaic, Legion Post #359

Robert James Challice, Little Falls, Legion Post #108

Intashaw Chowdhury, Paterson, Legion Post #360

Cesar Cruz, Passaic, Legion Post #438

Zachary Damiano, Little Falls, Legion Post #8

Antonio De chellis, Clifton, Legion Post #8

Omar Elshayeb, Woodland Park, Legion Post #238

Philip Federico, West Milford, Legion Post #289

Maxwell Gerber, Ringwood, Legion Post #246

Augustine Graziano, Hawthorne, Legion Post #199

Charlie Guzman, Passaic, Legion Post #8
Zachary Henderson, Hawthorne, Legion Post #199
Patrick Kerssen, West Milford, Legion Post #289
Charles Knepper, Hawthorne, Legion Post #199
Michael Kommer, Clifton, Legion Post #8
Mahatru Krishnamurthy, Wayne, Legion Post #174
Jeremiah Leal, Passaic, Legion Post #359
Braden Leary, West Milford, Legion Post #289
Anthony Loos, Laurel Springs, Legion Post #438
Michael Lopez-amaya, Clifton, Legion Post #8
Sharief Masri, Passaic, Legion Post #161
Jacob Meza, Hawthorne, Legion Post #199
Mohammed Miah, Paterson, Legion Post #438
Kevin Mondragon, Passaic, Legion Post #161
Fralvin Munoz, Paterson, Legion Post #438
Anthony Pasquariello, Newfoundland, Legion Post #289
Mohin Patel, Clifton, Legion Post #8
Nipun Patel, Clifton, Legion Post #347
Pratik Patel, Clifton, Legion Post #438
Ronak Patel, Clifton, Legion Post #8
Samveg Patel, Clifton, Legion Post #8
Shey Patel, Totowa, Legion Post #227
Suraj Patel, Little Falls, Legion Post #347
Jake Pisano, Totowa, Legion Post #227
Leonard Pisano, Totowa, Legion Post #227
Daniel Popoloski, West Milford, Legion Post #289
Kevin Rana, Passaic, Legion Post #359
Mateusz Rowicki, Passaic, Legion Post #347
Thomas Savoie, Hawthorne, Legion Post #438
Andrew Scott, Wayne, Legion Post #174
Joseph Sullivan, Clifton, Legion Post #347
Michael Trommelen, Totowa, Legion Post #227
Christian Velez-vargas, Paterson, Legion Post #360
Marc Vitello, Hawthorne, Legion Post #199
Kyle Vonende, Ringwood, Legion Post #246
Timothy Walters, Wanaque, Legion Post #246

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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.