



# 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

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **142 Bergen County Students Attend American Legion Jersey Boys State** *More than 325 New Jersey Communities Sent Delegates*

LAWRENCEVILLE, NJ – This week, 142 rising-seniors in high schools from Bergen County arrived at the 69<sup>th</sup> 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 51<sup>st</sup> 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 69<sup>th</sup> 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)**

Moustafa Abdelaziz, Leonia, Legion Post #1  
Motasem Abul-huda, Lodi, Legion Post #170  
Jason Ahrens, Chatham, Legion Post #531  
Michael Alecci, Oradell, Legion Post #531  
Jose Antunes, North Arlington, Legion Post #37  
Joseph Baldofsky, Fairlawn, Legion Post #171  
Michael Batista, Paramus, Legion Post #207  
Richard Bicocchi, Ridgefield, Legion Post #221  
Sean Billies, Waldwick, Legion Post #170  
John Ruel Bocado, Bergenfield, Legion Post #0

Harrison Brace, Haworth, Legion Post #117  
Nathan Bray, Fair Lawn, Legion Post #41  
Kenneth Breslow, Wyckoff, Legion Post #369  
Alexander Bronico, Rutherford, Legion Post #109  
Roman Broszkowski, Haworth, Legion Post #111  
John Cairns, Rutherford, Legion Post #109  
Neal Calabrese, Rutherford, Legion Post #453  
Raul Camilo, Little Ferry, Legion Post #310  
Michael Carangui, Ridgefield Park, Legion Post #147  
Michael Carr, Jersey City, Legion Post #109  
Hunter Cassiere, Wood Ridge, Legion Post #153  
Kurtis Cathey, Waldwick, Legion Post #55  
Nicolas Cerezo, Cliffside Park, Legion Post #365  
Paul Chamesian, New Milford, Legion Post #41  
Alex Choi, Cresskill, Legion Post #21  
Jacob Clarke, Mahwah, Legion Post #531  
Christopher Collazo, Ridgefield, Legion Post #221  
Naflur Dalim, Hackensack, Legion Post #55  
Tommaso Dato, Carlstadt, Legion Post #69  
James Diaz, Cliffside Park, Legion Post #365  
Omar Diaz, Carlstadt, Legion Post #109  
Casey Fazio, Little Ferry, Legion Post #310  
Morgan Fazio, Little Ferry, Legion Post #310  
Jermal Fevrier, Little Ferry, Legion Post #310  
Nicolas Fong, Leonia, Legion Post #1  
Bernard Frederic, Waldwick, Legion Post #57  
Scott Galdi, Park Ridge, Legion Post #153  
Patrick Gallagher, Rutherford, Legion Post #109  
Thomas Galow, Mahwah, Legion Post #531  
Nicholas Ghalam, Midland Park, Legion Post #130  
Michael Giampiccolo, Haworth, Legion Post #21  
Owen Giannangeli, Park Ridge, Legion Post #153  
Arkadius Goetz, North Haledon, Legion Post #171  
Jess Goldberg, Franklin Lakes, Legion Post #369  
Raj Gulati, Saddle Brook, Legion Post #415  
James Hamilton, Bergenfield, Legion Post #0  
Joshua Harris, Wallington, Legion Post #69  
Thomas Harte, Glen Rock, Legion Post #145  
Michael Hayes, Lyndhurst, Legion Post #139  
Ian Heinz, Mahwah, Legion Post #531  
Steven Hensley, Montvale, Legion Post #153  
Joseph Hillman, Cresskill, Legion Post #21  
Kevin Himber, Mahwah, Legion Post #531  
William Hooper, Lyndhurst, Legion Post #139  
Patrick Hughes, Hasbrouck Heights, Legion Post #106  
Chris Infurna, Fairlawn, Legion Post #171  
John Inguanti, Rutherford, Legion Post #109  
Rishab Jain, Closter, Legion Post #111  
Jay Jung, Tenafly, Legion Post #365  
Andrew Kalmowitz, Hasbrouck Heights, Legion Post #106  
Luke Kearney, Franklin Lakes, Legion Post #170  
Matthew Keenan, Rutherford, Legion Post #162  
Thomas Kessler, Mahwah, Legion Post #531  
Anthony Khelil, Cliffside Park, Legion Post #365  
Jake Kim, Ridgefield, Legion Post #310  
Justin Kim, River Edge, Legion Post #226  
Alex Koroglu, Oradell, Legion Post #41  
Paul Kozakiewicz, Bergenfield, Legion Post #0  
Brian Lee, Hillsdale, Legion Post #162  
Christoher Lee, Ridgewood, Legion Post #53  
Seung-chang Lee, Tenafly, Legion Post #21

William Leonard, Midland Park, Legion Post #130  
Scott Lingle Jr, Ridgefield Park, Legion Post #40  
Jack Lorenz, Glen Rock, Legion Post #145  
Zachary Lucanie, Park Ridge, Legion Post #153  
Sean Lynch, Glen Rock, Legion Post #145  
Alec Maccaro, Park Ridge, Legion Post #170  
Matt Mahoney, Waldwick, Legion Post #170  
John McCarthy, Rutherford, Legion Post #109  
Trentino Melone, Ridgefield Park, Legion Post #40  
Jorge Menendez, Teaneck, Legion Post #128  
Brendan Miccio, Franklin Lakes, Legion Post #369  
Brady Miller, Glen Rock, Legion Post #162  
Matt Mojica, Waldwick, Legion Post #57  
Nicholas Moran, Oradell, Legion Post #41  
Christopher Murphy, Park Ridge, Legion Post #41  
Richard Neumann, Hasbrouck Heights, Legion Post #106  
Collin Newberg, Fairlawn, Legion Post #171  
Frank Nota, Teaneck, Legion Post #128  
Jovanni Nunez, Park Ridge, Legion Post #153  
David Ocampo, Ridgefield Park, Legion Post #170  
Thomas Ochoa, Ridgefield Park, Legion Post #40  
Nathaniel Onorato, Hasbrouck Heights, Legion Post #106  
Brandon Padierna, Wallington, Legion Post #69  
Frankie Perez, Lyndhurst, Legion Post #139  
Anthony Peri, Mahwah, Legion Post #531  
James Picinich, Cresskill, Legion Post #21  
Joshua Pirog, Mahwah, Legion Post #531  
Victor Prieto, Cliffside Park, Legion Post #365  
Jack Reilly, Waldwick, Legion Post #170  
Dominic Reo, North Arlington, Legion Post #116  
Eddie Rivera, Teaneck, Legion Post #128  
Julio Rivera, Elmwood Park, Legion Post #147  
Michael Rodriguez, East Rutherford, Legion Post #109  
Julio Rojas, Woodbridge, Legion Post #128  
Jonathan Rosa, Teaneck, Legion Post #128  
Anthony Rotondo, North Arlington, Legion Post #37  
Mark Russo, Rutherford, Legion Post #109  
Sujaan Sanghvi, Paramus, Legion Post #207  
Ravi Saraiya, River Edge, Legion Post #226  
Adam Schulman, Harrington Park, Legion Post #30  
Alec Sciarra, Wyckoff, Legion Post #531  
Andrew Sciarra, Wyckoff, Legion Post #531  
Alex Scordato, Wyckoff, Legion Post #531  
Ahmad Sehwill, Elmwood Park, Legion Post #147  
David Sembrano, Hasbrouck Heights, Legion Post #106  
Joon Seok Seo, River Edge, Legion Post #226  
Kartik Shah, Franklin Lakes, Legion Post #369  
Joseph Shinnick, Lyndhurst, Legion Post #139  
Tokufu Kent Shoda, New Milford, Legion Post #221  
Stephen Shuler, Oradell, Legion Post #41  
Gabriel Silverio, Lyndhurst, Legion Post #139  
Ian Sniffen, Ridgefield Park, Legion Post #40  
Aren Spahiu, Lyndhurst, Legion Post #139  
Michael Spichiger, Glen Rock, Legion Post #145  
Anthony Stefanelli, Hasbrouck Heights, Legion Post #106  
David Stoltz, Carlstadt, Legion Post #69  
Zachary Sturm, Oradell, Legion Post #41  
Brendan Sullivan, Wyckoff, Legion Post #30  
Shen-jie Syz, Ridgewood, Legion Post #53  
Patrick Tanella, Rutherford, Legion Post #453  
Samir Tawalare, Park Ridge, Legion Post #153

David Terreri, Hasbrouck Heights, Legion Post #106  
Gianfranco Vaccaro, Cliffside Park, Legion Post #365  
Parker Valdez, Wyckoff, Legion Post #369  
Nicholas Van Ness, Waldwick, Legion Post #57  
Nicholas Venturini, Ramsey, Legion Post #170  
Theodore Volmar, Oradell, Legion Post #41  
Jonathan Wartel, Lyndhurst, Legion Post #139  
Dovid Wasserman-Plaza, Saddle Brook, Legion Post #415  
Alex Yoo, Ridgefield, Legion Post #221  
Edward Yoon, River Edge, Legion Post #226

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**About American Legion Jersey Boys State (ALJBS)**

In its 69<sup>th</sup> 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](http://aljbs.org).