

"A WEEK TO SHAPE A LIFETIME"

This program is designed to increase the knowledge and awareness of High School students throughout the state concerning the governmental processes and procedures at the City, County and State levels. It is a hands-on experience with role playing and active participation as the primary mode of learning. Upon arrival at Boys State, each student is registered and assigned to a Political Party and becomes a "citizen" of a specific city and county of Boys State. As citizens, they take the bar exam, participate in seminars and workshops, conduct elections at city – county – state level, participate in political party rally's, work on city – county – state problems, draft legislation and enact that legislation, conduct mock trials and set up their own state government including election of state officials, to include State Supreme Court. These are just a small part of the complete session program.

Several prominent individuals provide a real touch to this program each year. These guest speakers are experienced public officials and professional leaders that donate their time to address the citizens and staff of Boys State. In the last few years, this list has included Congressman Earl Blumenauer, Past President of the Oregon Senate, Brady Adams, the reining Senate minority leader, Ted Ferrioli, Chief Justice of the Oregon Supreme Court, the Honorable Paul De Muniz, Secretary of State, Kate Brown, State Representatives, Andy Olson and Dennis Richardson, Attorney General Hardy Meyers, State Treasurer, Ben Westlund and Labor Commissioner, Brad Avakian, as well as many other prominent and talented individuals.

After each speaker, an open forum is conducted for questions and answers, giving the young men a chance to interact while reminding them that government is just what they make it. It is always impressive to listen to the caliber of questions these young men bring forward.

ELIGIBILITY

Attendance at Oregon Boys State is limited to students who have completed their Junior year in high school and are recommended by their respective principals and school administrators. The local American Legion representatives then select young men to attend the Oregon Boys State program. Citizens of Boys State are expected to behave in a manner befitting a young gentleman. All students must be legal citizens of Oregon.

TRANSPORTATION

The Sponsoring American Legion Post and/or the Boys State Citizen are responsible for all transportation to and from the Boys State Session.

LOCATION

Oregon Boys State is held on the campus of the University of Oregon, Eugene, Oregon.

The University of Oregon is well equipped to care for up to 500 young men to attend Oregon Boys State each year, with modern housing facilities, dining halls and an air conditioned auditorium available for their use.

The University of Oregon has been the permanent home of Oregon Boys State since the early 1980's.

MEDICAL AID

Medical personnel are on call at all times. Sick call is available daily. Medications and prescriptions are to be identified to the Director upon check-in.

FOOD

A great variety of food is available. Eat all you want but don't take it out of the dining hall.

ROOMS

College dorm rooms will have two citizens per room and community restrooms/shower facilities. The University provides linens. Making your bed daily is your responsibility as staff does complete daily room inspections.

CLOTHES

Bring clothing to last a full week. Some items needed are shaving gear and toiletries and towels. We dress for outside guest speakers, we dress up for the occasion in a shirt and tie, sports coat or suit *, slacks and dress shoes. Additionally, we dress up for flag raising and lowering and each citizen participates in that ceremony at least once. Bring plenty of slacks

(two pair) and shirts (three). Ball caps may be worn most of the time but not in the dining room, to and from the conference facilities or when official pictures are taken. More relaxed clothes are important too and make up most of your week at Boys State. * **NOT NECESSARY, don't go out and buy a sports jacket just for Oregon Boys State.**

GET INVOLVED

You will get as much out of Boys State as you put into it. Be involved with your City and County from the minute you arrive. **WARNING: You are in for the week of your life and the more you put in the more you get out of it.** We advertise that this is "A week to shape a lifetime" and we mean it. Get involved!

TALENT SHOW

The Oregon Boys State Talent Show is formed from among those who have an interest and/or experience. If a young man plays a musical instrument and wishes to play in the Boys State Show, he must indicate this on his application at the time it is filled out. Those attending should bring their own instruments.

REGISTRATION

Registration for Oregon Boys State will be Sunday, June 20, 2010 from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Those who will be attending must arrive between these times. **If the student is an alternate, he must have a completed and signed application.**

CLOSED CAMPUS

Citizens are **NOT** permitted to leave the campus. They will not even leave the program complex except to go to the Conference Facilities and/or the dining facility while under the direction of the Boys State Staff.

LIGHTS OUT

It is recommended that you get as much sleep as possible. Each day's agenda is very busy and you won't want to sleep through a guest speaker.

MONEY

\$25.00 is required at time of registration for 2 tee-shirts (required apparel) and a group photo. City & County pictures are available for sale from Wednesday to Saturday (\$15) A CD with pictures of all the citizens participating in the weeks' activities is also available for \$15. Snacks are sold during the week and Friday

night (the only night that this is allowed) the boys order pizza. If a citizen drives his own vehicle, he is responsible for paying **U of O PARKING FEE (\$56 minim charge for the week)**, and must turn in his keys upon arrival at registration. We DO NOT recommend that citizens drive their own vehicles. We recommend that citizens don't bring a large amount of money.

DEPARTURE

Boys State citizens will be free to leave Oregon Boys State anytime after graduation and being dismissed by the city counselor - approximately 12:00 p.m., (noon) Saturday, June 26, 2010. **BOYS STATE CITIZENS WILL BE GIVEN "EARLY RELEASE" FROM THE PROGRAM FOR TWO REASONS, CITIZEN ILLNESS OR DISCIPLINARY ACTION BY THE CHAIRMAN. IF THE CITIZEN CANNOT STAY FOR THE ENTIRE SESSION INCLUDING GRADUATION ON SATURDAY, PLEASE DO NOT SEND THEM.**

BOYS NATION

Two citizens from each session are sent to Washington, DC in July to participate in the Boys Nation Program. They represent Oregon as Senators and participate in all of the structure and functions of the Federal Government. These boys are scheduled to meet and visit with the elected Representatives and Senators from Oregon as well as the President of the United States. They also visit and tour many of the historic and famous sites in and around the Washington, DC area.

TYPICAL DAY AT PROGRAM

6:30 a.m.	Rise & Shine
7:00 a.m.	Breakfast
8:15 a.m.	Flag Raising
8:30 a.m.	City/County Meeting
10:00 a.m.	Auditorium Assembly
11:30 a.m.	Lunch
1:00 p.m.	Keynote Speaker
3:00 p.m.	Activity Block
5:00 p.m.	Dinner
6:15 p.m.	Flag Lowering
7:00 p.m.	Political Activity
8:00 p.m.	Auditorium Assembly
10:30 p.m.	City Meeting
11:30 p.m.	Lights Out

SAMSUNG SCHOLARSHIP

One citizen from Boys State and one from Girls State are selected annually as a National Finalist for a \$20,000 Scholarship. In recent years, Matthew Barreau from Thurston High School in Springfield won a \$20,000 scholarship in 1998, Rachelle Blanchard of Eagle Point, won another \$20,000 scholarship in 1999 and Shanna Myers of Eugene won \$20,000 in 2009. Obviously it is worth the time and effort to complete the application if you are eligible.

INSURANCE

Delegates to Oregon Boys State are protected by a group medical policy furnished by The American Legion, Department of Oregon and underwritten by Sentry Insurance. This policy is excess coverage to other collectible insurance plans. **FAMILY INSURANCE IS THE PRIMARY INSURER AND INFORMATION MUST BE PROVIDED.**

COST

The enrollment cost to attend Oregon Boys State is two hundred seventy five dollars (\$275.00) each and is paid by a sponsoring American Legion Post or sponsor from a community minded person or organization.

THE AMERICAN LEGION OREGON BOYS STATE COMMISSION

Commission members are available to assist interested students or school officials in any

aspect of The American Legion Oregon Boys State Program. Commission members are: Dan Warden (Cave Junction), Don Epperson (Albany), Ian Gerstal (Dundee), Jim Craig (Forest Grove), Jerry Schleining (Gresham), Jim Willis (Albany) Robert Huntington (Forest Grove).

MAIL

Staff Counselors will deliver citizens mail. Address to:

John Doe Citizen
American Legion Oregon Boys State
Living & Learning Center Conf Desk
University of Oregon
Eugene, OR 97403

CITIZENS OR PARENTS QUESTIONS?

American Legion Posts sponsor young men to attend Oregon Boys State. However, parents, patriotic and civic organizations, and local businesses are invited to sponsor or to assist in sponsoring a young man to Oregon Boys State. Contact the nearest American Legion Post or contact Don Epperson, Chairman Oregon Boys State Program at: 541-928-8032
E-mail: donepperson@comcast.net