



Pennsylvania American Legion

Keystone Boys State

Youth Activities

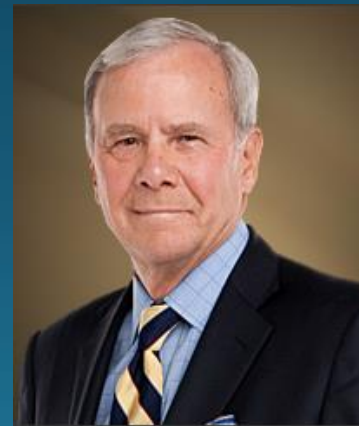
Keystone Boys State



- Leadership, Government & Civic Instruction
- Highly Participatory; Deeply Immersive
- 20,000 Annual Graduates Nationwide



Boys State Alumni





Keystone Boys State

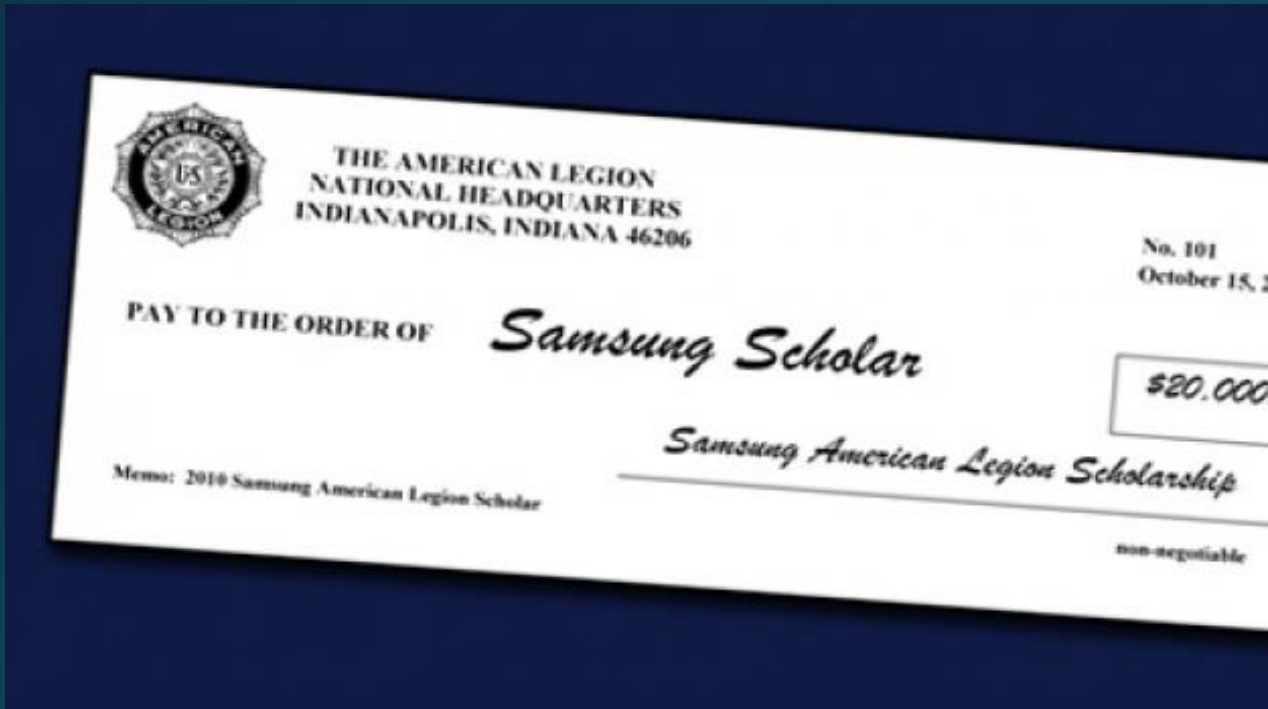
- College & Related Applications:
“Single Best Entry”
- Benefit Student, School & Family
- Citizenship, Americanism & Democracy



(Keystone Girls State operated by American Legion Auxiliary)



Keystone Boys State



Kyle Kozlowski,
Washington, PA
2014 Recipient of
\$20,000
Samsung Scholarship



\$1,000 American Legion Scholarships
Awarded Annually to Five KBS Citizens





Keystone Boys State

- Schools Nominate Best 11th Graders as Citizens
- Legion Posts Pay Citizen's \$175 Tuition
- Citizens Hold All Offices & Positions:

- Legislative
- Law Enforcement
- Judicial
- Tax & Revenue Planning
- Business Operation
- Media Interaction





Keystone Boys State

GOALS

- Know the System
- Never be a Victim
- Excel in School & Working Years

- Hands-On, Immersive Environment
- Top Students Nationwide
- Competitive
- Robert's Rules of Order
- Leadership



Boys Nation



- Washington, DC: 8 Days in July
- Boys Nation Senate: Two per State
- Full Day with Home State Senator
- Visit POTUS, Memorials, Federal Facilities



Keystone Boys State



It's Still Up To YOU and ME!





Thank You!

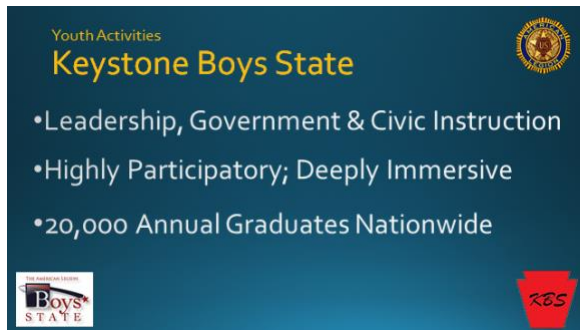
Pennsylvania American Legion

Keystone Boys State

SLIDE 1



SLIDE 2



The American Legion's Boys State program stands among the most respected and selective educational programs of government instruction for high school students. From its establishment in 1935 in reaction to Young Pioneer Camps appearing in the

US and bearing the same name as youth camps operating in several socialist countries, Boys State has become highly respected throughout the country, both for the program and its alumni.

Boys State is a week-long, hands-on civics class. It is a fully participatory and immersive program. Each young **citizen** assumes roles in his municipal, county and state governments. Along with the political science focus of the program, leadership experience is a significant benefit of this study of civics: Learning by both **observing** and **doing**.

The KBS program has been operating in Pennsylvania for 76 years (KBS suspended for 3 years during WWII), but we are concerned that there are too many high schools that are unfamiliar with the program and its potential positive, life-changing impact on the lives of its "citizens".

Forty-nine states conduct this program and graduate 20,000 young men annually. Let's look at just a few of the many well-known graduates over the years.

SLIDE 3



ment, journalism, and the military.

Alumni of Boys State have risen to leadership positions in essentially all professions. There are countless numbers of them in the federal, state and municipal governments. Here are a few from space exploration, business, judicial, sports, politics, entertain-

- * Neil Armstrong – Navy pilot, astronaut, first man to walk on the moon.
- * Tim Cook – CEO Apple, Inc.
- * US Supreme Court Justice Samuel Alito – Appointed to the Supreme Court in 2006.
- * Michael Jordan & coach Phil Jackson – Together: 6 NBA championships with the Bulls.
- * Bill Clinton – Governor of Arkansas; President of the United States
- * Jon Bon Jovi – Singer
- * Tom Brokaw – Journalist; NBC Nightly News anchor; author of best-seller *The Greatest Generation*.
- * Admiral Jon Greenert – 4-Star Admiral; Chief of Naval Operations, Navy's most senior officer, a 1971 KBS alumnus and guest speaker at KBS 2015 graduation.

SLIDE 4



Keystone Boys State

- College & Related Applications:
"Single Best Entry"
- Benefit Student, School & Family
- Citizenship, Americanism & Democracy

THE AMERICAN LEGION
Boys
STATE

(Keystone Girls State operated by American Legion Auxiliary)



All service academies, the Ivy League colleges and many other universities, in addition to scholarship committees and countless businesses, all highly prize applicants who are American Legion Boys State alumni. Some college admissions offices have

remarked that American Legion Boys State has **unbeatable clout on an application.**

The citizen benefits from ALKBS, as does his school, with him becoming a motivated and more experienced leader for his senior year in high school. He and his family benefit from his increased opportunity for a college scholarship, entry into a more prestigious and competitive college, and job offers from higher-tier employers.

Leadership skill in running meetings, programs and various organizations is one of the enduring benefits of attending the Keystone Boys State program. Recognizing and fostering good citizenship, patriotism, and leadership will always be on the front line for the KBS program.

Also, "Yes, Virginia," there is a Keystone Girls State, operated by the American Legion Auxiliary.

Five \$1,000 scholarships are awarded during KBS week. The citizens elected as Keystone Governor and Lieutenant Governor and the two selected to attend Boys Nation as Senators from Pennsylvania will each receive a \$1,000 scholarship. The citizen from Pennsylvania who wins the state-level Samsung scholarship competition also receives a \$1,000.00 scholarship and competes for a national award, as detailed on the following slide.

SLIDE 5



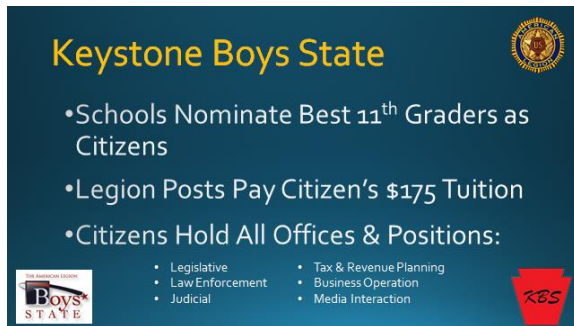
A notable award from ALKBS is the Samsung scholarship. During the 18 years the American Legion has administered the award, over 1800 American Legion Boys and Girls State citizens have been recognized and \$5 million have been awarded by the

Samsung Corporation's endowment.

Between 10 and 12 \$20,000 Samsung scholarships are awarded every year to citizens of that year's Boys and Girls State programs.

In our own state, scholarships of \$1,000 are guaranteed to the citizens who are elected Governor and Lieutenant Governor, and the two selected to attend Boys Nation as Senators from Pennsylvania. Another citizen from Pennsylvania will win the Samsung scholarship competition to receive a \$1,000 scholarship and be eligible for the larger national award.



SLIDE 6



Keystone Boys State

- Schools Nominate Best 11th Graders as Citizens
- Legion Posts Pay Citizen's \$175 Tuition
- Citizens Hold All Offices & Positions:
 - Legislative
 - Law Enforcement
 - Judicial
 - Tax & Revenue Planning
 - Business Operation
 - Media Interaction

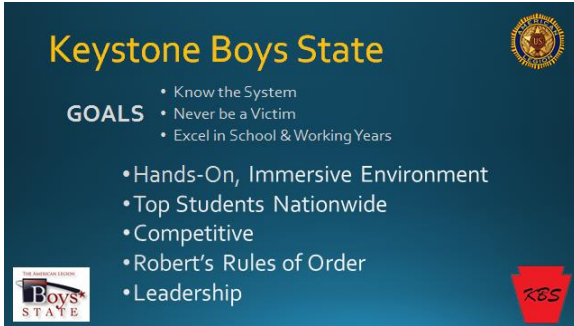
THE ASSOCIATION OF BOYS STATE



Now, let's look at some of the details in citizen selection and experiences. Boys in the 11th grade are nominated by a teacher, counselor, coach, Legionnaire, clergy, legislator, etc., then sponsored by a local Legion Post that pays the \$175 tuition for the boy's ALKBS week.

KBS citizens assume the responsibilities, rights, privileges, and duties of franchised citizens of the state of Keystone. Governments for cities, counties and the state are formed sequentially throughout the week and populated with elected officials, including elected congressmen, senators, judges, and a governor. Several assistants, such as committeemen are appointed. Businesses are established that stress the concept of "taxation WITH representation" in which tax revenue is used to run the state and support the citizenry. A police force of and for the citizenry enforces the rules of the state of Keystone, while the judicial branch hears cases and hands down decisions on transgressors. A daily newspaper and TV station, run by the citizens, demonstrate the importance of communications and media in maintaining a balanced political process. Even recreation time serves an end in the city, with competitive teams vying to take home points that count positively toward their city's objectives throughout the week.

SLIDE 7



Keystone Boys State

GOALS

- Know the System
- Never be a Victim
- Excel in School & Working Years

- Hands-On, Immersive Environment
- Top Students Nationwide
- Competitive
- Robert's Rules of Order
- Leadership

THE AMERICAN LEGION
BOYS STATE

AMERICAN LEGION
KBS

When we say “Never be a victim” we mean: The better the citizens understand the government system, the better they can work within that system to have their voices heard. Blaming the government for something a person doesn’t like is an easy, but generally ineffective way of taking action. Learning about, and being involved in the decision-making process in KBS moves the citizens toward fairness and justice for themselves through their dealings with government.

This program covers a lot of ground in its six days’ duration. It is intense, with a constant demand for a citizen’s attention and involvement. The intensity is balanced with sports, comradery at meals and nightly KBS TV programs.

A strength of the program comes from mixing citizens from schools across the state. Each school or geographic often develops its own way of doing certain tasks or events. The opportunity afforded the citizens by KBS allows them to observe other skills and ways of doing things from other parts of the state. We help “Remove the Blinders and Broaden the Horizons”.

Competition among the citizens to have their ideas accepted is a driving force in the success of the program. Being unfamiliar with or intimidated by Robert’s Rules of Order limits a person from participating in any organized debate or discussion. ALKBS brings RRO out for all to see and use, and makes it clear that the city, county and state governments all follow those procedures.

Leadership experience is part-and-parcel of these government operations, with abundant opportunities as mayors, city managers, city and county committee chairmen, senators, representatives, speaker of the house, president pro tem of the senate, and several other positions of authority. They learn by doing and watching other top-performers, observing which actions work and which do not.

SLIDE 8

Boys Nation



- Washington, DC: 8 Days in July
- Boys Nation Senate: Two per State
- Full Day with Home State Senator
- Visit POTUS, Memorials, Federal Facilities



Boys Nation is a follow-on program for a select two citizens each summer. Where Boys State covers the state government, Boys Nation emulates the federal government. From the 49 states come the 98 senators to be in residence. Much of their time is spent

on Boys Nation senate business & in their home state's US senator's offices.

But, as busy as their schedule is, they invariably visit the US Capitol; the Pentagon; and Arlington National Cemetery, where the Boys Nation senators lay a wreath at the Tombs of the Unknowns. They also visit several Washington DC memorials, including: the Iwo Jima, Lincoln, Vietnam, Korean War and World War II memorials; a military tattoo (sunset parade).

You'll remember from an earlier slide, one Boys Nation senator returned to the White House 30 years later, not as a visitor, but this time as its resident: President Bill Clinton.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WL1YsyLSZuU>

SLIDE 9



In summary, we help the young men who participate in the Keystone Boys State program:

- * Learn the strengths and inner workings of our republic;
- * Add to their leadership understanding and develop more traits and stronger abilities;
- * Expand their circle of friends and future business and professional contacts;
- * Position themselves to compete at a higher level in their senior year, college and their chosen career field.

The combined efforts of The American Legion and Pennsylvania's high schools are essential to the success of the program and its contribution to our nation's future leaders. We invite you to work with us in support of this program so that together we can positively impact the future of our young citizens and our nation.

SLIDE 10

