THE AMERICAN LEGION BOYS STATE

2026

McDaniel College
Westminster, Maryland

June 21–27, 2026

Sponsored by

THE AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT OF MARYLAND, INC.

This Manual Belongs To:

_____

(Name) A Citizen of Maryland American Legion Boys State

City_____ Party_____

Committee_____

Counselors

CIC_____

_____

_____

_____

_____

Mentors

_____

_____

Positions/Offices Held

_____

_____

_____

_____

Stay connected.
Tag Us in Your Journey:

@mdboysstate

McDaniel College
June 21 – 27, 2026

THE AMERICAN LEGION
DEPARTMENT OF MARYLAND, INC.
2026 MARYLAND BOYS STATE

Boys State is an objective citizenship training school in which the nation's young leaders gain a valid concept of the operations, ideals, functions and goals of government.

Boys State developed from an idea that youth should be offered a better perspective of the practical operations of government; that the individual is an integral part of, and commensurately responsible for, the character and success of government. The phenomenal growth of the movement is attributable in large measure to the laboratory method of teaching practical political science.

The Boys State program is characterized by self-imposed duties, responsibilities, rules, regulations, practices and customs which are essential to the maintenance of an orderly society and government.

A few of the objectives of Boys State are:

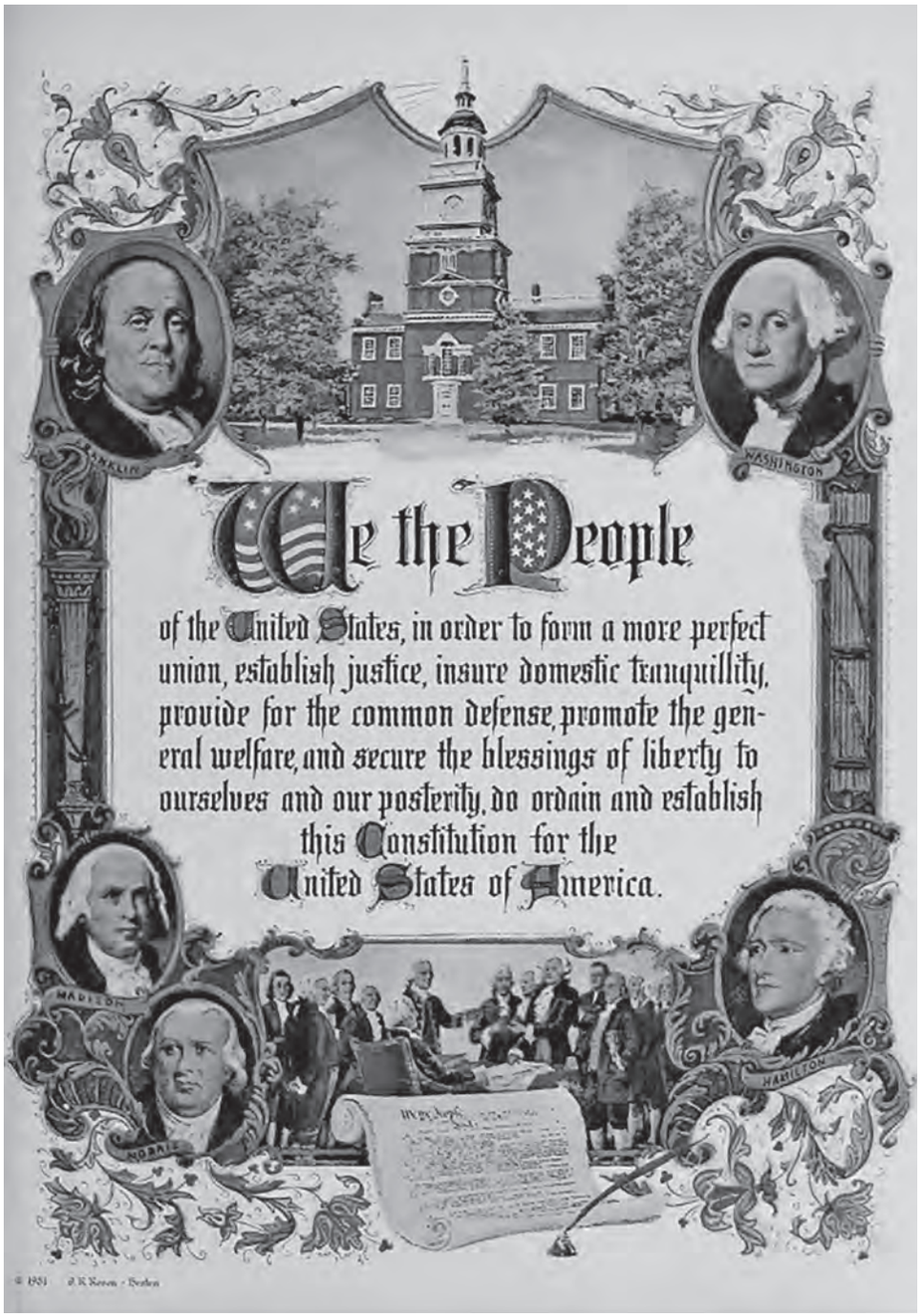
- To provide an opportunity to learn, understand and practice the basic principles underlying the representative form of government.
- To arouse in young citizens the desire to maintain our form of government with its guaranteed freedoms.
- To teach young leaders to make decisions in line with reason.
- To develop civic leadership and interest in governmental affairs.
- To instill in the youth, the knowledge that American citizenship is a priceless possession with responsibility to the same degree.

TO THE CITIZENS OF MARYLAND BOYS STATE

You are here to learn about American citizenship, your priceless heritage. How much you learn and the value of the training to you depends largely upon your personal attitude and effort. The men and women who teach you here are holders of the office about which they lecture. All have volunteered to serve on our faculty because of their belief in the future of America and appreciation of the value of being an informed American citizen. Pay strict attention to their presentations.

The American Legion, Department of Maryland is happy to have the opportunity of working with all the individuals, organizations, and services who have so generously contributed of their time, effort and money toward Boys State. Organizing and producing Boys State calls for the closest cooperation. The Director acknowledges that this Boys State is the direct result of such work and spirit. We are especially grateful to the Legionnaires who served in the United States Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Space Force, and Coast Guard for their help.

Preamble to the Constitution of the United States of America



Drawn by the late J. R. Rosen, printed courtesy *The American Legion Magazine*

BOYS STATE CREED

American citizenship is my most precious possession. I believe in the constitutional form of government of The United States of America which guarantees me the right to worship God as I choose and, as a citizen, equal opportunity and equal educational rights.

It is my obligation to participate in, and contribute to, the civic and political welfare of my community, state and nation.

I resolve to learn and understand the civic needs and government of my community. I hereby dedicate myself to the task of arousing and maintaining a like interest in my fellow citizens, young and old.

May the memory and experience of Boys State be ever with me as a reminder of my obligation to my country.

BOYS STATE PLEDGE

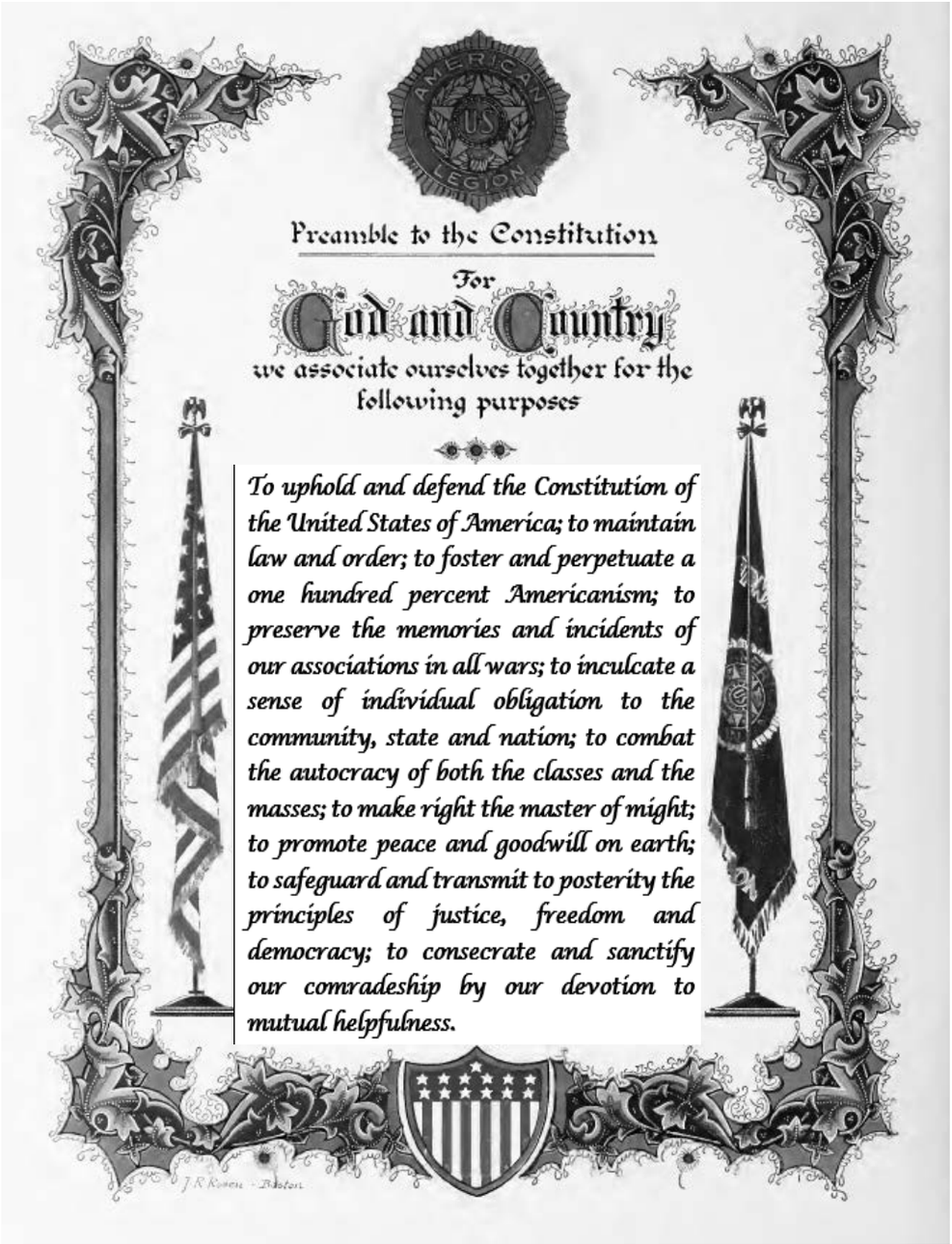
As a citizen of Boys State I voluntarily pledge the following:

- I shall secure permission from my Counselor before leaving the Boys State campus for any reason. I shall not visit other Boys State Cities without permission.
- I will obey the rules and regulations of Boys State and instructions given by the Director or any of the Staff.
- I will take a serious and conscientious interest in discharging my duties as a citizen of Boys State. I recognize that the schedule is a very busy one, requiring utmost cooperation, alertness and extreme punctuality at all times.
- I will adhere to the program of Boys State, participating in activities as scheduled, with the understanding that I am to attend all sessions, unless previously excused.
- I shall serve, if elected or appointed to office, to the best of my ability. I will serve wisely and well, not abusing my authority.
- I will not form injurious habits and will not use, nor tempt other citizens of Boys State to use alcoholic beverages, drugs or tobacco in any form while attending Boys State. I shall make a report to my sponsor, or sponsors, of my impressions of Boys State after my return home.
- I will protect and conserve all property of Boys State, also the property and grounds of McDaniel College. I will not trespass in any area marked or designated "Off Limits."
- I will keep my quarters, and the Boys State campus, tidy and clean at all times so that visitors will be impressed with the general appearance of Boys State at all times while I am a citizen therein.
- I shall remain quiet and orderly and will not participate in rowdy activities after "lights out."
- I shall respect the rights of my fellow citizens of Boys State.

Signed: _____

CITIZEN, BOYS STATE 2026

Preamble to the Constitution of The American Legion



Drawn by the late J. R. Rosen, printed courtesy *The American Legion Magazine*

SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, JUNE 21, 2026

12:00 p.m. Check-In – **Gill Gym**

1:00 p.m. Parent and Student Briefing – **Gill Gym**

3:30 p.m. Assembly for instructions, rules, regulations, introductions – Director Russell W. Myers, Jr. and Assistant Director Charles Gannon – **Alumni Hall**

4:50 p.m. Evening Meal Formation – Dinner 5:00 p.m.

6:45 p.m. Class Formation – Colors

7:00 p.m. Opening General Assembly – Alumni Hall

Invocation – Rev. Dr. Otis Wilson, Chaplain Department of Maryland

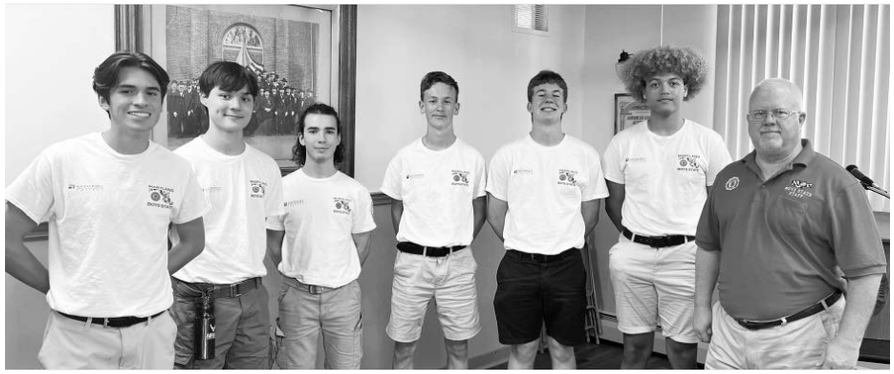
Welcome to Boys State – Russell W. Myers, Jr., Director, The American Legion Maryland Boys State Program

MD Boys State 2025 Governor - Gordon Johnson - Goldstein City - Anne Arundel County - DeMatha Catholic High School

"Charter Form of Government" – Rick B. Weldon, Jr., President & CEO. The Frederick County Chamber of Commerce ; Member of Maryland House of Delegates (2003-2009)

10:00 p.m. Bed Check

10:25 p.m. Taps *(lights out by 10:30 p.m.)*



MONDAY, JUNE 22, 2026

5:15 a.m.	Reveille
5:30 a.m.	Shower, Dress, Clean Quarters *(Sick Call)*
6:45 a.m.	Colors & Morning Formation – Breakfast 7:00 a.m.
7:45 a.m.	City Primary Elections
9:00 a.m.	*Speak to Lead – Brig. Gen. Adam K. Ake, Deputy Director - Joint Task Force Audit; 1992 Boy's Nation Senator (AK), 1992 AK Boy's State Lt. Gov.*
10:00 a.m.	Robert Antoinin - Founder of Leadership Lessons; Toastmasters International Ambassador, online host, and leadership consultant; *Communication, Leadership, and the Art of Public Speaking*
11:00 a.m.	Edward C. Rothstein, COL(R) - Secretary of MD Department of Veterans & Military Families, Commissioner of Carroll County 2018-2025
11:3. a.m.	Noon Meal Formation – Lunch 12:00 Noon
1:00 p.m.	The Appellate Court and Judicial System – Fred Hecker, Judge,Carroll County Circuit Court
2:00 p.m.	*Amslrw Emtcplkclr* Gkn_ar md Qr_rc J_uq _lb @sbecr ml Amslrw Mncp_rgmlq - Peter Smith* USMC XXX&P'* Amuncilmember Vice Chair* Anne Arundel County (Dist 1), Candidate for County Executive*
3:00 p.m.	*City Charters and Challenges in a Municipal Government*— Anthony Chiavacci, City of Westminster Council Member

MONDAY, JUNE 22, 2026 *(Continued)*

4:00 p.m.	Director's Time
4:50 p.m.	Evening Meal Formation – Dinner 5:00 p.m.
6:15 p.m.	Colors – Recreation – Talent Show Practice at Alumni Hall
8:15 p.m.	Cities in House – Charter – Campaign – Caucus – Shower
10:00 p.m.	Bed Check
10:25 p.m.	Taps *(lights out by 10:30 p.m.)*

TUESDAY, JUNE 23, 2026

5:15 a.m.	Reveille
5:30 a.m.	Shower, Dress, Clean Quarters *(Sick Call)*
6:45 a.m.	Colors & Morning Formation – Breakfast 7:00 a.m.
7:40 a.m.	City General Elections – Big Baker Chapel
8:00 a.m.	ROTC Scholarship Information; Rob Familetti, McDaniel ROTC
9:00 a.m.	Financial Literacy – Dr. Allen Cox, Managing Director, Maryland Coalition for financial Literacy
10:00 a.m.	The State Legislative Process – Director Russell Myers & Political Officer John Larrimore
11:00 a.m.	Director's Time - Runoff Elections - Election Results - Oath of Office
11:3. a.m.	Noon Meal Formation – Lunch 12 Noon
1:00 p.m.	City Photos - Alumni Hall
1:15 p.m.	Political Simulation – Political Officer John Larrimore
	Organization – Elections
4:50 p.m.	Evening Meal Formation – Dinner 5:00 p.m.
6:15 p.m.	Colors – Recreation – Talent Show Practice at Alumni Hall
8:00 p.m.	State Primary Caucus – Nominations – Alumni Hall and Forum
10:00 p.m.	Bed Check
10:25 p.m.	Taps *(lights out by 10:30 p.m.)*

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24, 2026

5:15 a.m.	Reveille
5:30 a.m.	Shower, Dress, Clean Quarters *(Sick Call)*
6:45 a.m.	Colors & Morning Formation – Breakfast 7:00 a.m.
8:00 a.m.	Political Simulation, Political Officer – John Larrimore
	Break into Committees – Debate Assigned Bills – Hill Hall
11:00 a.m.	Appellate Court of MD Election – In Committee Rooms Elect 3 Judges, 1 Bailiff, 1 Clerk (Remaining split into 2 groups of Attorneys to argue
11:45 a.m.	Noon Meal Formation – Lunch 12:00 Noon
1:00 p.m.	*Political Simulation* – John Larrimore
	Full General Assembly – Committee Reports – Votes – Alumni Hall
4:00 p.m.	State Candidate Speeches
4:50 p.m.	Evening Meal Formation – Dinner 5:00 p.m.
6:15 p.m.	Colors – Recreation – Talent Show Practice at Alumni Hall
7:45 p.m.	Governor Candidates Debate
8:45 p.m.	Cities in House – Charter – Campaign – Caucus – Shower
10:00 p.m.	Bed Check
10:25 p.m.	Taps *(lights out by 10:30 p.m.)*

THURSDAY JUNE 25, 2026

5:15 a.m.	Reveille
5:30 a.m.	Shower, Dress, Clean Quarters (Sick Call)
6:45 a.m.	Colors & Morning Formation – Breakfast 7:00 a.m.
7:40 a.m.	State General Elections - Big Baker Chapel Colors – Announcements 8:00 a.m. – GROUP PHOTO – Bleachers Football Field
8:30 a.m.	Appellate Advocacy Training - Alumni Hall
10:00 a.m.	Admissions Counselor for McDaniel College
10:45 a.m.	National Primary Caucus – Nominations
11:45 a.m.	Noon Meal Formation – Lunch 12:00 Noon
1:00 p.m.	Drug Abuse – Major James Pyles, Maryland State Police
3:00 p.m.	National Candidate Debate – Moderated by Boys State Staff
4:10 p.m.	Appellate Court of MD Simulation - Hill Hall - Assigned Committees
4:50 p.m.	Evening Meal Formation – Dinner 5:00 p.m.
6:15 p.m.	Colors – Recreation – Talent Show Practice at Alumni Hall Cities in
8:15 p.m.	House – Campaign – Shower – Charter Due
10:00 p.m.	Bed Check
10:25 p.m.	Taps *(lights out by 10:30 p.m.)*

FRIDAY JUNE 26, 2026

5:15 a.m.	Reveille
5:30 a.m.	Shower, Dress, Clean Quarters *(Sick Call)*
6:45 a.m.	Colors & Morning Formation – Breakfast 7:00 a.m. National General Election
8:15 a.m.	Test – City Staff – Hill Hall
9:45 a.m.	Director's Time
11:00 a.m.	Noon Meal Formation – Lunch 11:00 a.m.
12:00 p.m.	Supreme Court of MD Simulation - Alumni Hall
3:00 p.m.	Depart for Post 31

FRIDAY JUNE 26, 2026 *(Continued)*

3:30 p.m.	Arrive at Carroll Post 31
4:45 p.m.	Dinner at Carroll Post 31
6:00 p.m.	Formation for Parade back to McDaniel College
6:15 p.m.	Parade back to McDaniel College
6:45 p.m.	Colors – Announcements
7:00 p.m.	Talent Show at Alumni Hall
	Coordinators – Douglas Lawrence, Charee Reckner, and Ruth Higgins
10:00 p.m.	Bed Check
10:25 p.m.	Taps *(lights out by 10:30 p.m.)*

SATURDAY, JUNE 27, 2026

5:15 a.m.	Reveille
5:30 a.m.	Shower, Dress, Clean Quarters *(Sick Call)*
6:45 a.m.	Colors & Morning Formation – Breakfast 7:00 a.m.
	Secure Barracks – Linen Return – Move Baggage – Dress for Graduation
8:45 a.m.	Graduation Formation
9:00 a.m.	Graduation Ceremony – **Big Baker Chapel**
	Color Guard – 2026 Boys State Color Guard
	Presentations and Awards
	Pins given out by Cities
	Benediction – Rev Dr Otis Wilson, Chaplain, The American Legion Department of Maryland
	Recessional Formation to Quad for Retiring of Colors for 2026 Boys State
	NOTE: Families are welcome to proceed to College Quad in front of Hoover Library after Citizens file out to observe this ceremony.

RULES

1. No citizen shall obtain or retain firearms, fireworks or explosives in his possession. Any found shall be turned in to the Director.
2. No citizen shall use alcohol, tobacco, drugs or other contraband items at any time, anywhere, during Boys State.
3. No citizen shall operate an automobile while at Boys State.
4. No citizen shall participate in games of chance, or in any form of gambling while at Boys State.
5. No citizen shall be offensively boisterous or rowdy in his personal conduct while at Boys State, either on the campus or away.
6. No citizen shall trespass in any portion of any building not definitely assigned to Boys State; nor in any "Off Limits" area.
7. Any illness or injury, however slight, must be reported immediately to the Medical Officer.
8. Rules and/or Regulations may be changed, modified or promulgated without any notice other than their announcement at a Formation or Lecture Period. They shall take effect immediately in this event.

CITIZEN'S OBLIGATION

Self-government is not a luxury upon which men grow fat and indulgent. Rather it is an instrument by which men can, if they have the wisdom, safeguard their individual freedom and employ that freedom in pursuit of happiness and fair reward for the fruits of their efforts, the energies and the participation of those who would benefit by it, self-government is weighed as heavy with obligation as with privileges.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America and to the Republic for which it stands, one Nation under God, indivisible, with Liberty and Justice for all.

FREEDOM

Discuss what you have learned here with your parents and friends. Above all urge your parents and relatives to vote in every Primary and General Election. One who does not use the franchise afforded to citizens may cause the loss of the franchise.

* *

When the bugler sounds "TAPS" we ask that you consider for the moment the millions of Americans who sacrificed their lives in all of the wars so that we might enjoy days such as these in freedom and dignity.

MD Boys State City Charter

Format should consider if the essential elements are condensed in a single instrument with a simple and logical arrangement, uniform terminology, consistency between the different parts, and the avoidance of ambiguities and unnecessary repetition.

Essential questions include what type of City Government will the City establish in its Charter?

MINIMUM ESSENTIALS

A. PREAMBLE
* General statement of purpose

B. EXECUTIVE BRANCH
* Minimum requirements for eligibility
* Election process for Mayor
* Length of term of office
* Authority (ie powers, responsibilities, veto powers, etc)

C. LEGISLATIVE BRANCH
* Minimum requirements for eligibility
* Election process for City Council
* Length of term of office and number of members

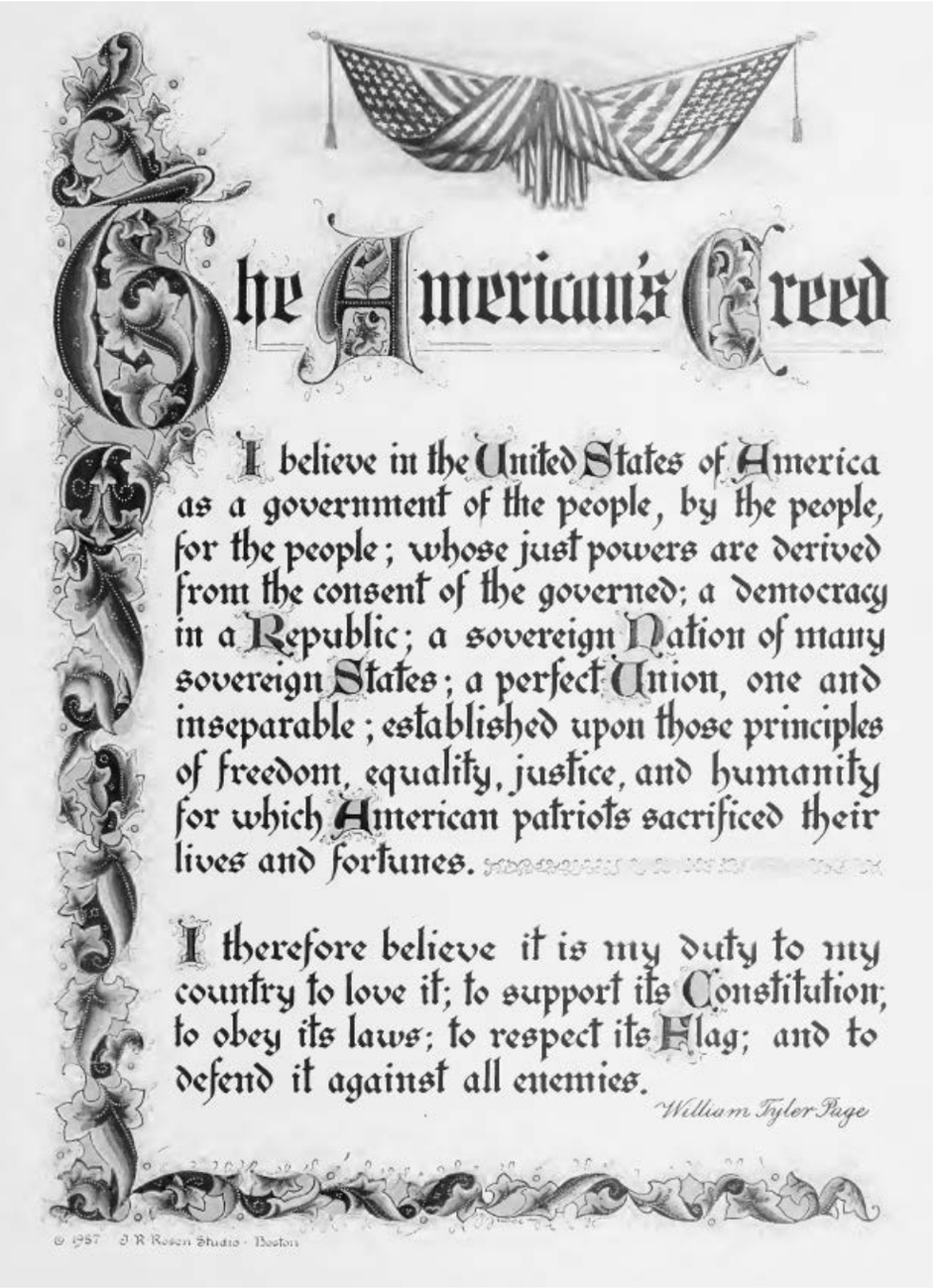
D. JUDICIAL BRANCH
* Minimum requirements for eligibility
* Election and/or appointment process for Municipal Judge
* Length of term of office
* How will judicial proceedings take place in the city?

E. MAYORAL APPOINTMENTS
* Minimum requirements for eligibility
* Length of term of office
* Duties and responsibilities of each appointed position

F. GENERAL POWERS AND RESTRICTIONS
* May include process to ratify charter
* May include any rights or restrictions wanted by the citizens

G. AMENDMENT PROCESS
* How can the charter be amended?

The American's Creed by William Tyler Page



The American's Creed

I believe in the United States of America as a government of the people, by the people, for the people; whose just powers are derived from the consent of the governed; a democracy in a Republic; a sovereign Nation of many sovereign States; a perfect Union, one and inseparable; established upon those principles of freedom, equality, justice, and humanity for which American patriots sacrificed their lives and fortunes.

I therefore believe it is my duty to my country to love it; to support its Constitution; to obey its laws; to respect its Flag; and to defend it against all enemies.

William Tyler Page

© 1957 J.R. Rosen Studio · Boston

Drawn by the late J. R. Rosen, printed courtesy *The American Legion Magazine*

MARYLAND BOYS STATE
ELECTIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

All Primaries are by Caucus — All Generals are by ballot

City Government Elections

EACH CITY ELECTS:

Mayor
President of the City Council
Comptroller
City Councilmen (Five)

APPOINTMENTS MADE BY MAYOR:

Chaplain
Attorney
Police Chief
Tax Collector
Municipal Judge
Fire Chief
Commissioners of:
Health
Recreation
Welfare
Communications

State Government Elections

THE ENTIRE STATE ELECTS:

Governor
Lt. Governor
Attorney General
Comptroller
Chief Justice
Sr. Associate Justice

EACH CITY ELECTS:

State Senators (two)
State Delegates (six)
Associate Justice

APPOINTMENTS MADE BY GOVERNOR OF BOYS STATE:

Chaplain
Auditor
Secretary of State
Adjutant General
Circuit Court Judges (2)
Police Superintendent
President, Univ. of MD
Health Officer
Budget Officer

Commissioners of:
Banks
Labor-Industry
Insurance
Motor Vehicles
Chairmen of Commissions & Boards:
Athletics
Economics
Parole & Probation
Chesapeake Bay Affairs

Tax
Safety
Education
Planning
Roads
Racing
Agriculture
Corrections
Game
Public Service

National Government Elections

THE ENTIRE STATE ELECTS:

Senior U.S. Senator (Boys Nation)
Junior U.S. Senator (Boys Nation)
Alternate Sr. U.S. Senator
Alternate Jr. U.S. Senator

(A candidate must be a Rising Senior, a U.S. Citizen, and a full time resident of the State of Maryland in order to run for the positions of Governor, Lt. Governor or the U.S. Senator positions.)

THINGS TO KEEP IN MIND

Politics is the art of gaining and maintaining control of government in an orderly, law abiding manner.

- He who controls the emotions of man may control the man.
- He who controls the emotions of an area may control that area.
- He who controls the emotions of a nation may control that nation.
- He who controls the world's most powerful nation may eventually control the entire world.

Anyone who has loved, with the resulting inspiration, knows this to be true. Anyone who moves their hands and feet to the rhythm of music knows this to be true. Anyone who experiences a beautiful day in the countryside early in Spring; a new parent, even a winner at the racetrack, all know this to be true. Dictatorships all recognize this first rule of control but Democracies sometimes forget it. You must remember to apply this wondrous principle for the preservation of that great emotion without which there can be none of the others.

The American Legion, Department of Maryland, Inc.

MARYLAND BOYS STATE

Nikki S. Randolph ..... Department Commander
Russell W. Myers, Jr. ..... Department Adjutant
Ronald L. Holcombe ..... National Executive Committeeman

BOYS STATE STAFF

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

Russell W. Myers, Jr. ..... Director
Charles E. Gannon ..... Assistant Director – Administrative, Political, Education
Larry Crouch ..... Assistant Director – Operations and Logistics
David Heredia ..... Chief Administrator

POLITICAL OFFICERS

John Larrimore ..... Political Officer
Charles E. Gannon ..... Political Officer
Charles J. Slimowicz ..... Political/Education Officer
Sawyer Cornelius ..... Party Advisor – Federalist
Doug Lawrence ..... Party Advisor – Nationalist

FOOD SERVICE

Gary Blades ..... Food Services Officer
Earnest Hawkins ..... Food Services Officer

SUPPORT STAFF

Steve Tatro ..... Liaison Officer
Pete Kelly ..... Medical Transport/Admin Spt
Gary Blades ..... Supply Officer
Ralph Cordrey ..... Medical Transport/Supply Officer
Patrick Zito ..... Security Officer
Earnest Hawkins ..... Security Officer
E. Glenn Butler ..... Medical Services
Ruth Higgins ..... Medical Services
Charee Reckner ..... Medical Services
Greg "Doc" Reisz ..... Medical Services
Todd Chamberlain ..... Medical Services
Patricia McCoy ..... Medical Admin

TALENT SHOW COORDINATION

Doug Lawrence
Charee Reckner
Ruth Higgins

BOYS STATE CITY STAFF MEMBERS

Michael Armijo
Sawyer Cornelius
Wayne Dunaway
Adrian Gamboa
Gary Gifford
Ronald Holcombe
David King
Douglas Lawrence
Bernard Liswell
Orlando Nesbit
Frank Price
Dennis J. Renehan
Patrick Robbins Jack Smith Alexander
Whitney, Sr

City Mentors:

Charan Bala
Cordell Eddings
Zachary McGrath
Alfred Segbe
Brett Sheranko
Matthew Svehla

Counselors in Training

Tim Bauerline
Jonas Garland
Andrew Komm
Todd Morris
Paul Turlington

History of Directors of MD Boys State

Earle R. Poorbaugh	**1947-1955**
Woodrow W. Bousman	**1956**
E. Donald Darr & Williams Hastings	**1957**
Daniel Burkhardt	**1958-1986**
Raymond Callegary	**1987-2009**
Roger Butt	**2013-2016**
Russell W. Myers Jr.	**2017-**

STAFF MEMBERS EMERITUS

Roger W. Butt Thomas Davis John Mackall Dennis Rebok

Donald Griffith Judith Moody Gary B. Vogt

IN MEMORY OF BOYS STATE STAFF MEMBERS

Richard Barr
Robert Bruchey
Charles Serabian
James Tanabe
Michael Wilson
Daniel H. Burkhardt
William Stuart
William Sipple
Talmage Carawan
James Pritchett
Peter Randall
Wilbur Newcomb, Jr.
Alex Ilczuk
Edward Larry Killen.
James Jones
Eddie B. Mitchell
Robert M. Johnson
J. Cody Quinton
Charles Ireland
R. Lee Fisher
Russell Barr
Donald Messick
Charles St. Clair
Pat Walker
Gerald L. Duvall
Wilbur L. Vansant, Jr.
Alvin Wallace
Jesse Chambers
Robert N. Ford
Ashby Jenkins
Charles Bender
Theron T. Newsome
Thomas Adams
Steve Redyk
Robert McLain
Michael Odum
Raymond E. Callegary
Philip J. Surprenant
Samiel M. Hofberg
William Milligan
Mark Main

CITIES

GANNON CITY – Named for Charles "Chuck" Gannon, the only MD Boys State Staff member to serve on staff for 50 years and counting!

FLAG CITY – Named for the "Star Spangled Banner" that flew over Fort McHenry during the War of 1812.

FORT CITY – Named for Fort McHenry, shelled by the British during the War of 1812.

GOLDSTEIN CITY – Named for the late Louis L. Goldstein, former Maryland Comptroller, who attended Boys State for fifty years, the only speaker/political figure to do so.

BURKHARDT CITY – Named for Daniel Burkhardt, longest serving Director of Maryland Boys State (1958-1986; 29 years)

LEGION CITY – Named for The American Legion and in honor of its sponsorship of Boys State for over 90 years.

FORMER GOVERNORS OF MARYLAND BOYS STATE

William E. Poorbaugh, Baltimore 1947-48
Charles Sitter, Cumberland 1948-49
Carroll Campbell, East Riverdale 1949-50
Howard Griner, Catonsville 1950-51
Philip Walbert, Henderson 1951-52
Richard Duncan, Reisterstown 1952-53
Ralph F. Vincente, Parkville 1953-54
Phil Flynn, Baltimore 1954-55
Daniel W. Donohue, Baltimore 1955-56
Roger Kisiel, Hagerstown 1956-57
Vaughn Callahan, Centreville 1957-58
Thomas Smith, Fullerton 1958-59
Gerald K. Gimmel, Chevy Chase 1959-60
Joseph P. Colly, Dundalk 1960-61
Jerome Schnydman, Baltimore 1961-62
Gino Crocetti, Baltimore 1962-63
Eric L. Oser, Takoma Park 1963-64
Gregory A. Young, Catonsville 1964-65
Colm Gage, Baltimore 1965-66
Bill Fluharty, Catonsville 1966-67
Mark D. Morris, Towson 1967-68
Robert F.M. Klaus, Oxon Hill 1968-69
Aubrey C. Knox, Baltimore 1969-70
Garth Weldon, Gaithersburg 1970-71
Peter D. Allen, Joppa 1971-72
William D. Dux, Towson 1972-73
James R. Pickett, Baltimore 1973-74
Michael Begley, Towson 1974-75
Eamonn McGeady, Baltimore 1975-76
James A. Fenner, Jr., Aberdeen 1976-77
Joseph S. Markwordt, Highandtown 1977-78
Thurl Bailey, Seat Pleasant 1978-79
David C. Hill, Beltsville 1979-80
Michael D. Miller, Rockville 1980-81
Richard L. Astle, Port Deposit 1981-82
Kevin Laurence, Europe 1982-83
David Gregorio, Adelphi 1983-84
Andrew Shorr, Potomac 1984-85
Robert Clingan, Salisbury 1985-86
Michael J. Kidd, Arnold 1986-87
Hoke Glover, Seabrook 1987-88
Dilip Paliath, Baltimore 1988-89
Eric Petty, Upper Marlboro 1989-90
Brian Lehman, Monrovia 1990-91
Erich Muehleisen, Chesapeake Bch. 1991-92
Harold W. Hickman, Lusby 1992-93
John B. Esterhay, Olney 1993-94
Joshua L. Goldstein, Bethesda 1994-95
Dennis Mitchell, Barnesville 1995-96
Jeff C. Mund, Glen Arm 1996-97
Michael J. Lambert, Havre de Grace 1997-98
Alan J. Hawk, Prince Frederick 1998-99
William E. Shoe, Glen Burnie 1999-00
Akil S. Patterson, Frederick 2000-01
Bryant Hall, Galesville 2001-02
Timothy Kamas, Hagerstown 2002-03
Shawn P. Flaherty, Baltimore 2003-04
William G. Rueter, IV, Baltimore 2004-05
Nathan Hayes, Abingdon 2005-06
Joseph C. Buyer, Arnold 2006-07
Jonathan Byrd, Salisbury 2007-08
James Peterson, Mt. Airy 2008-09
Damika Somasundaram, Highland 2009-10
Steven Wang, Hagerstown 2010-11
Daniel Stonko, Manchester 2011-12
Shobhit Kumar, Finksburg 2012-13
James Dobson, Bethesda 2013-14
Maurice Harris, Oxon Hill 2014-15
Jacob M. Murdock, Baldwin 2015-16
Garrett R. Lowe, Keymar 2016-17
Young Sol Kim, Rockville 2017-18
Ethan R. Jenkins, Bel Air 2018-19
Alexander M. Rawlett, Bel Air 2019-21
Samir T. Mitri, Potomac 2021-22
Chase A. Pearson, Potomac 2022-23
Cooper I. Charkatz, Potomac 2023-24
Brett M. Sheranko, Lusby 2024-25
Gordon B. Johnson, Annapolis 2025-26

FORMER U.S. SENATORS OF MARYLAND BOYS STATE

William E. Poorbaugh, Baltimore 1947-48
Ray Bellamy, Cheverly..... 1947-48
Charles Sitter, Cumberland 1948-49
Billy Hancock, Middle River 1948-49
Robert James, Baltimore..... 1949-50
Frank Walker, Baltimore 1949-50
James Babcock, Chevy Chase 1950-51
Jerry Pessago, Baltimore..... 1950-51
W. Eugene Sanders, Frederick..... 1951-52
Dick Contee, Baltimore..... 1951-52
Gary Angleberger, Frederick 1952-53
Ralph Manuel, Brunswick 1952-53
Cadman Owens, Baltimore 1953-54
Leo M. Childs, Oxon Hill..... 1953-54
Mati Tammaru, Baltimore..... 1954-55
Michael Pylypczik, Berlin 1954-55
Daniel W. Donohue, Baltimore..... 1955-56
Norman W. Davis, Salisbury..... 1955-56
Roger Kisiel, Hagerstown..... 1956-57
Len Ebersberger, Linthicum..... 1956-57
David Finley, Suitland..... 1957-58
Sam Schyndman, Baltimore..... 1957-58
Ronald Yakaitis, Baltimore 1958-59
William R. Davis, Suitland..... 1958-59
Joseph Bailer, Jr., Westminster 1959-60
Jerry Walls, Bel Air 1959-60
William Hylton, Catonsville 1960-61
Robert Brugger, Hagerstown..... 1960-61
Ramon Parcells, Riverdale 1961-62
Jack Hall, Sudlersville 1961-62
Benjamin Landrum, Cambridge..... 1962-63
Larry Melfa, Edgewood 1962-63
Robert L. Harrison, Jr., Baltimore..... 1963-64
Perry M. Ratliff, Dundalk..... 1963-64
Dennis R. Hayden, Silver Spring..... 1964-65
Earl O. Kidwell, Jr., Silver Spring 1964-65
Randall A. Young, Hagerstown..... 1965-66
Philip F. Zalesak, Takoma Park..... 1965-66
Lionel Hunt, Annapolis 1966-67
Kenneth Jones, Dundalk..... 1966-67
Ralph W. Cornick, Baltimore 1967-68
Thomas Basil Lewis, Rockville 1967-68
Tom Blair, Owings..... 1968-69
Marc G. Issacs, Ft Meade 1968-69
Bob Weinzimer, Wheaton 1969-70
Mike Basil, Annapolis..... 1969-70
John R. Valliant, Royal Oak..... 1970-71
Daniel Crumpler, Rockville..... 1970-71
Robert Robinson, Cambridge 1971-72
Philemon Price, Aberdeen 1971-72
Mark A. Goode, Edgewood 1972-73
Ronald T. Skinner, Easton 1972-73
Tod Hildebrand, Laurel 1973-74
John W. Short, Severn 1973-74
Jonathan M. Shue, Linthicum 1974-75
Blaine M. Tewell, Severn..... 1974-75
Anthony Neser, Baltimore 1975-76
Henry Covington, Jr., Centreville..... 1975-76
Barry K. Young, Cambridge..... 1976-77
* Dwight DeGroff, III, Finksburg 1976-77
* Matthew S. Rund, Temple Hills 1976-77
Gregory Holcombe, Annapolis 1977-78
Marc A. Snyder, Rockville 1977-78
Mark R. Brown, Chestertown 1978-79
Tom Wolhlfarth, Potomac 1978-79
Timothy F. Madey, Burkittsville..... 1979-80
Barry P. Waterman, Queenstown..... 1979-80
Matthew A. DeVore, Germany 1980-81
Jeffery C. Corbett, Ft Meade 1980-81
Lloyd A. Williams, Baltimore 1981-82
Glenn J. Emory, Europe 1981-82
Ezra Vance, Europe 1982-83
Kurt Eglseder, St Michaels 1982-83
Bradley Rogers, Mitchellville..... 1983-84
Brian Street, Crofton 1983-84
Stephen Hoffman, Crofton..... 1984-85
David Glick, Europe 1984-85
Derek Roberts, St Michaels 1985-86
Paul Cruz, Europe 1985-86
David Bredenburg, Finksburg..... 1986-87
Andrew Stiles, Clarksburg..... 1986-87
Marshal Childers, Havre De Grace..... 1987-88

* House of Representatives ** Represented Dept of Washington

FORMER U.S. SENATORS OF MARYLAND BOYS STATE

Barry Mackall, Prince Frederick..... 1987-88
Andrew Kelly, Damascus 1987-88
Kevin Fahey, Rockville 1988-89
Adam Silva, Hanover 1988-89
Martin Kelly, Hydes..... 1989-90
Sean Fahey, Rockville..... 1989-90
William R. McMillion, Glen Burnie..... 1990-91
Shawn McDonald, Germantown 1990-91
MuKund Krishnaswami, Glen Burnie.... 1991-92
Michael T. Thayer, Poolesville..... 1991-92
Lee L. Bolen, Elkton..... 1992-93
Christopher A. Smith, Gaithersburg 1992-93
Edward M. Uppole, Waldorf 1993-94
John F. Schulz, Crofton 1993-94
Kibwe Owens, Clinton 1994-95
Alden Yetman, Kennedyville..... 1994-95
Michael High, Frederick..... 1995-96
Matthew Laczkowski, Westminster 1995-96
Christopher T. Sherbert, Germantown ... 1996-97
Shun Y. Yu, Gaithersburg..... 1996-97
Christopher Cole, Indian Head..... 1997-98
Shawn Sutton, Clinton 1997-98
Ishmael M. Sheriff, Gaithersburg 1998-99
Charles "Ryland" Drennan, Bowie 1998-99
Michael S. Lovett, Bel Air..... 1999-00
Garth C. Troescher, Jr., Chesapeake Bch. . 1999-00
Chaz I. Sutton, Washington, DC..... 2000-01
Thaddeus S. Wright, Lusby..... 2000-01
Andrew P. Kettner, Lusby..... 2001-02
Shawn P. McGrath, Aberdeen 2001-02
Jeffrey C. Currier, Annapolis..... 2002-03
Jordan T. Hadfield, Baltimore 2002-03
Jose Z. Canto, Baltimore..... 2003-04
Daniel K. Bowling, Bel Alton..... 2003-04
Daniel W. Rogers Jr., Gaithersburg..... 2004-05
Andrew R. Goad, Baltimore..... 2004-05
William Garrett, Edgewood 2005-06
Johnathan Woods, Edgewood 2005-06
Oluwale E. Ajagre, Gaithersburg 2006-07
Michael K. Holt, Gaithersburg 2006-07
Luke Roberts, Laurel 2007-08
Andrew Nichols, Owings 2007-08
Brett A. Pearson, Perryville 2008-09
Collin M. Grier, Cambridge..... 2008-09
Sean Marshall, Port Deposit 2009-10
Benjamin Thompson, Silver Spring 2009-10
Nathan Chai, Bowie..... 2010-11
Eric Kyle, LaPlata 2010-11
Kenneth Bartlett, Middletown 2011-12
James Kazunas, Darnestown 2011-12
Matthew Baughman, Manchester..... 2012-13
Solon Snider, Severna Park..... 2012-13
David Birkenthal, Lutherville 2013-14
Alain Estrad, Lusby 2013-14
Miles Walker, Columbia..... 2014-15
Jeremy Price, Westminster..... 2014-15
Sami G. Mullah, Germantown 2015-16
Carter T. Outsa, Montgomery Village 2015-16
David A. Polefrone, Ellicott City..... 2016-17
Robert K. Pekarek, Forest Hill..... 2016-17
Jared Walker, Waldorf..... 2017-18
Chann Cortes, Prince Frederick 2017-18
Matthew Geiger, Mt Airy 2018-19
Andrew Zirkle, Mt Airy 2018-19
George N. Houzouris, Churchville 2019-20
Jacob W. Reintzel, Saint Leonard..... 2019-20
Anbo Li, Boyds 2021-22
Samir T. Mitri, Potomac..... 2021-22
**Quinn E. McIver, Westminster 2021-22
**Hektor Y. Thompson, Annapolis..... 2021-22
Zachary M. McGrath, Serverna Park..... 2022-23
Matthew D. Lynard, Forest Hill 2022-23
Jonah Woo, Marriotsville 2023-24
Sangwoo Park, Germantown..... 2023-24
Charan S. Bala, Clarksville..... 2024-25
Julien E. Halleman, Annapolis..... 2024-25
Will B. Fermaglich, Chevy Chase..... 2025-26
Erin Alistar, Columbia..... 2025-26

DO MIGHTY THINGS

"Far better it is to dare mighty things, to win glorious triumphs, even though checked with failure, than take rank with those poor spirits who neither enjoy nor suffer much, because they live in the grey twilight that knows not victory nor defeat"

. . . from an address by Theodore "Rough Rider" Roosevelt, 26th President of the United States of American from 1901 through 1909.

THE U.S. MARINE CORPS TROPHY

Maryland City 1961
Legion City 1962
Key City 1963
Key City 1964
Maryland City 1965
Flag City 1966
Flag City 1967
Flag City 1968
Maryland City 1969
Maryland City 1970
Fort City 1971
Flag City 1972
Legion City 1973
Flag City 1974
Key City 1975
Legion City 1976
Flag City 1977
Key City 1978
Key City 1979
Legion City 1980
Taylor City 1981
Legion City 1982
Taylor City 1983
Bay City 1984
Legion City 1985
Darr City 1986
Darr City 1987
Darr City 1988
Fort City 1989
Maryland City 1990
Guerinot City 1991
Fort City 1992
Legion City 1993
Fort City 1994
Guerinot City 1995
Guerinot City 1996
Legion City 1997
Taylor City 1998
Fort City 1999
Goldstein City 2000
Darr City 2001
Goldstein City 2002
Legion City 2003
Darr City 2004
Key City 2005
Goldstein City 2006
Goldstein City 2007
Legion City 2008
Darr City 2009
Legion City 2010
Flag City 2011
Darr City 2012
Fort City 2013
Legion City 2014
Darr City 2015
Goldstein City 2016
Flag City 2017
Darr City 2018
Flag City 2019
Flag City 2021
Legion City 2022
Fort City 2023
Legion City 2024
Fort City 2025

BOYS STATE HISTORY

In 1934 Illinois Department Adjutant Bill Mundt, Hayes Kennedy of Loyola University Law School, Grover Sexton, a Chicago attorney, and Legion Boy Scout Chairman Harold L. Card were talking together at the Illinois American Legion Convention. They decided to establish an Americanism-Citizenship training program to combat the inroads being started by the youth organizations of the Nazi and Soviet friendship groups here in the U.S.A.

The first Boys State was held at the Illinois Fair Grounds in June 1935. The boys were quartered in cattle barns; one enterprising student wrote home that he was Cow 34 in Stall 16 (you see, right from the beginning each student was required to write a letter home).

The 1935 National Convention, held in September, reported upon the success of the Illinois program and recommended that all American Legion Departments adopt the program.

In Maryland, plans were laid to start up, but the intervention of World War II, travel restrictions and lack of space put our program on hold until a complete study was made and visits to other Boys States conducted in 1946. June 1947 saw the first Maryland American Legion Boys State. It was held at Fort George G. Meade and had 36 boys enrolled. Earle R. Poorbaugh, a World War I soldier and holder of the Silver Star among other decorations, was the Director. Earle remained Director until June 1955 when Woodrow W. Bousman took over. Boys State was held at Saint John's College in Annapolis that year.

Upon Woody Bousman's illness, E. Donald Darr became Director, followed by William Hastings. In 1958 Daniel Burkhardt was named Director, holding the office until 1987. In 1987 Raymond Callegary, a Past Department Commander and renowned Maryland lawyer, became Director of Boys State. Through Mr. Callegary's efforts the program was modernized and updated. In 2009 Past Department Treasurer Roger W. Butt became Director, with his experience as a retired High School Administrator his main goal was to educate and increase the attendance at Maryland Boys State. In 2017 Russell W. Myers, Jr., the current Department Adjutant, and a 27-year Army and Afghanistan War Veteran became Director.

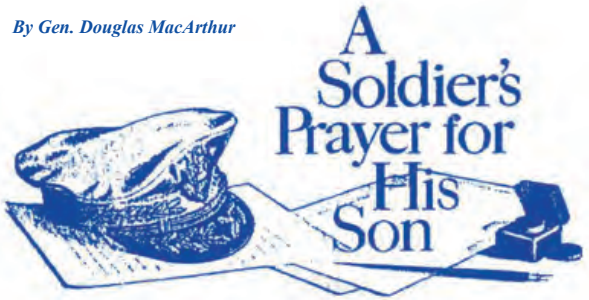
Maryland Boys State graduates have become Doctors, Lawyers, Educators, Political Office Holders, Armed Forces members and officials of government and industry. Diversification is as wide as one Boys State Governor (Tom Smith, 58) being head of a university department and another (Thurl Bailey, 78) being a professional basketball star. Several graduates have heeded the call to the ministry; some are Priests, some are Protestant Ministers and one is a Rabbi.

If you listen while at Boys State, you should learn enough to help you make up your mind as to what you are going to do with your own future. Behind all the stress and discipline, the matters you may not understand at the time, is a genuine effort on our part to assist you to become better citizens, to make you better informed and to expose you to great variety of knowledge.

What you do with it is up to you . . .

The Legionnaires that staff Maryland Boys State take pride in their military service to our great Nation. Their service to Maryland Boys State is a labor of love and sacrifice for the future generations of our Communities, State and Nation. With immense pride they serve this week in hopes of educating, inculcating, and mentoring within each Boys State citizen a better understanding of why we served, and why so many of our brothers and sisters in arms have given the ultimate sacrifice. Through the words of Gen. Douglas MacArthur, written to his son, the staff hopes the experience was rewarding to all. We wish for you to think of us fondly as you read one Father's wish for his son, and our wish for your future. ***—Russell W. Myers Jr, MD Boys State Director***

By Gen. Douglas MacArthur



Build me a son, O Lord, who will be strong enough to know when he is weak, brave enough to face himself when he is afraid, one who will be proud and unbending in honest defeat, and humble and gentle in victory.

Build me a son whose wishes will not take the place of deeds; a son who will know Thee — and that to know himself is the foundation stone of knowledge.

Lead him, I pray, not in the path of ease and comfort, but under the stress and spur of difficulties and challenge. Here let him learn to stand up in the storm; here let him learn compassion for those who fail…

Build me a son whose heart will be clear, whose goal will be high; a son who will master himself before he seeks to master other men; one who will reach into the future, yet never forget the past.

And after all these things are his, add, I pray, enough of sense of humor, so that he may always be serious, yet never take himself too seriously.

Give him humility, so that he may always remember the simplicity of true greatness, the open mind of true wisdom, and the meekness of true strength.

Then, I, his father, will dare to whisper, "I have not lived in vain."