
**THE NEW JERSEY SYMPOSIUM ON
LEADERSHIP & POLITICS
August 11-14, 2008
PRINCETON UNIVERSITY**

**-- sponsored by --
THE JUNIOR STATESMEN FOUNDATION
1600 K St NW, Suite 803
Washington DC 20006
(202) 296-7838 or (800) 317-9338**

ORIENTATION PACKET

Congratulations on your acceptance to the New Jersey Symposium on Leadership and Politics. This packet contains important information on when to arrive, what to expect and how to prepare for the program. Please read it carefully and write or call us if you have any questions. We look forward to your participation in this unique educational experience.

PLEASE RETURN THE ENCLOSED REGISTRATION FORM WITHIN 30 DAYS. Your tuition payment will guarantee your place in the Symposium. If you will not be attending, please notify us as soon as possible so that we may offer your space to another interested student.

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Symposium is an exciting exploration of power and politics in New Jersey. It begins at Princeton University on Monday morning, August 11th, with an orientation on the issues and personalities that dominate New Jersey decision-making. During the Symposium, you will have an opportunity to meet and question the powerful leaders from politics, government, and the media who make things happen in the State House. These sessions will be held in the Assembly Chambers and various Legislative Committee Rooms in the historic State House, where we will travel by chartered bus. The program will conclude with a graduation ceremony on the afternoon of Thursday, August 14.

Topics of discussion and debate vary during each session, depending upon current events and the issues facing New Jersey. Issues we anticipate examining this year include:

- * Corruption in New Jersey Politics
- * Revitalization and Redevelopment Plans
- * State Budget Challenges
- *Evaluating the Governor
- *Property Tax Reform
- *Education Financing

Each evening Symposium staff will lead small group discussions on the speakers and topics of the day. These sessions help draw educational lessons from the day's events and prepare students for the next day's speakers. You will also probe the opinions of your peers in lively discussions and debates on current issues in the news.

While the Symposium is not heavily academic, most of your day and evening is filled with educational activities. Living and learning with other high school students from throughout NJ, you are certain to make many friends and hear a variety of political perspectives.

TUITION & FUNDRAISING

Please mail your \$495 tuition fee and Registration Form to The Junior Statesmen Foundation, NJ Symposium, 1600 K St NW, Suite 803, Washington, DC, 20006. Checks should be made payable to The Junior Statesmen Foundation. **In order to hold your place in the Symposium, we must receive these items within 30 days of receipt of this packet.**

Symposium tuition covers housing at Princeton University, breakfasts and dinners, transportation to and from the State House, and all academic activities and materials. You will need to buy four lunches during the Symposium week. There are inexpensive restaurants in the capitol area. Some additional spending money is also suggested.

Some students, through their own fundraising efforts, receive partial or full scholarships from local donors. Contributors should send donations to The Junior Statesmen Foundation, NJ Symposium, 1600 K St NW, Suite 803, Washington, DC, 20006 with an accompanying letter or memo naming the student they are assisting. Checks should be made payable to The Junior Statesmen Foundation. For more information on how to raise money in your community, please read the **Fundraising Manual**, available for download at www.jsa.org.

ARRIVAL & REGISTRATION

Registration will take place on Monday, August 11 between 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. You will be registering in the courtyard of Holder Hall off of Nassau St. Visit www.princeton.edu for a campus map.

Students are responsible for arranging their transportation to Princeton. Students traveling by adult driven car (or by shuttle from the airport) should arrive at Princeton Monday, August 11 between 8:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. **Students may not drive a car to the Symposium or have a car at the Symposium - NO EXCEPTIONS!**

GRADUATION & DEPARTURE

The Symposium will conclude on Thursday, August 14 around 3:30 p.m. Parents and family members are invited to attend Graduation, which will take place at 2:00 p.m. Details regarding the ceremony location will be available during registration.

Students leaving campus at the conclusion of the program with someone other than their parents or guardian must provide written permission from their parents to do so. This permission must be received prior to the program.

HOUSING

Students will be housed in double, triple, or quad rooms in Holder Hall. Male and female students will be housed in separate areas of the dorm. Symposium staff members are housed in the dorm and are responsible for the supervision of students.

Each student will need to provide his/her own linen for an extra long twin bed. *Princeton University dorms are not air-conditioned, and we strongly suggest that you also bring a fan.*

Roommate selection is done in advance and cannot be changed. If you would like to share a room with someone you already know, both students must return the enclosed Roommate Request Form to the Junior Statesmen Foundation Office in Washington, DC by July 15, 2008.

Students will be responsible for leaving their room in the same condition in which they found it and will be charged for any damages that occur. There is a significant replacement charge for lost keys and meal cards. *Please make sure to bring a key chain so you will not lose your key or access card.*

WHAT TO BRING

You should pack clothing that is appropriate for daily sessions in the New Jersey State House and for the Graduation ceremony. When meeting public officials, you should dress as if you were going to a job interview or church or temple event. Jeans, shorts, T-shirts, and tennis shoes are not appropriate attire for meeting with our speakers.

Remember to pack comfortable shoes as we will be doing a good deal of walking. Consider bringing a sweater; the meeting rooms we use are air-conditioned and get very cool. Also, be sure to bring comfortable informal clothing to wear on campus in the evenings. There will be some time for informal recreation during the week and a social event on Wednesday night.

The following list of clothing and other important items will help you get started packing:

Females

business attire (dress or pant suit, dress slacks & jacket)

blouses, skirts or dresses (knee-length or longer)

dress shoes & nylons

shorts

jeans

t-shirts

underwear

nightgown or pajamas

sandals or tennis shoes

light jacket or sweater

Males

business attire (suit, dress slacks & sports jacket)

dress shirts & ties

dress shoes & socks

shorts

jeans

t-shirts

underwear

pajamas

sandals or tennis shoes

light jacket or sweater

1. A pillow & extra-long twin sheets

2. Hand towels, wash cloths, soap

3. A notebook and pens

4. An alarm clock

5. Key chain (recommended)

6. A fan (recommended)

7. Personal items (toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant, etc.)

8. An umbrella

9. Hangers

10. A camera (optional)

11. A watch

12. Spending money (for lunches, snacks, and souvenirs)

Students should not bring valuable items to the Symposium. While the dormitory is staffed 24 hours a day, we will be off campus during the day. Neither Princeton University nor The Junior Statesmen Foundation can assume responsibility for your personal belongings.

EXPERIENCE THE JUNIOR STATE OF AMERICA

Throughout the Symposium, you will participate in lively discussions and debates on current issues with your peers. These debates are an excellent introduction to the **Junior State of America**, the largest, student-run political education organization in the country! Founded 74 years ago by high school students, JSA today involves over 15,000 participants across the country.

After attending the Symposium, we hope that you will found a JSA chapter at your high school. Typical chapter activities include student debates of controversial issues, bipartisan speakers programs, mock trials, candidate nights, voter registration drives and school-wide assemblies on campus issues. JSA chapters are the center of political activity and awareness in their high schools. Members across the state also meet at three overnight weekend conventions each year. *So, come prepared to get the tools you'll need to join the most exciting and political student-run organization in the country!*

SYMPOSIUM RULES

1. Students must abide by all rules established by the Junior Statesmen Foundation, the Symposium Director, Princeton University, and all local, state and federal laws.
2. Students must be on their own floor at 10:00 p.m. and may not leave there floor thereafter. There will be a dorm meeting each night at this time when students must check in with their Resident Advisor.
3. Curfew will be at 11:00 p.m., or as announced by the Symposium Director. After curfew, students must be in their own rooms either quietly studying or sleeping.
4. No smoking or use of other tobacco products is allowed.
5. The use of alcohol or illegal drugs is not permitted. Students may not use prescription drugs not prescribed for them by a physician. The use of over the counter drugs such as Vivarin or No-Doze is also prohibited.
6. The use of Princeton University facilities is a privilege. Students must conduct themselves in a mature and respectful fashion and must not do anything to damage the reputation of the Junior Statesmen program. Students who recklessly or maliciously damage these facilities, or the property of others, will be held liable, financially responsible and may be subject to expulsion.
7. Harassment, sexual or otherwise, of any student, faculty or staff person will not be permitted.
8. Students must attend all classes and activities, unless they are ill. If a student is too ill to attend class, a staff member must be notified. If necessary, the student will be taken to Princeton Hospital for care.
9. All students are housed by gender. Students are not allowed on the floors, entryways, or in the rooms of members of the opposite sex.

10. General Conduct Rules in the dorm and in other facilities: Students must respect the privacy of their dorm mates. Loud noise will not be tolerated at any time.

No wrestling or horseplay will be allowed in the dorm. Students may not throw anything out of their dorm windows. No pranks will be allowed—especially any pranks that may cause damage to rooms or their contents or to the well-being of other students, staff, or faculty. Squirt guns, water balloons, and other water-related toys are not allowed. Shaving cream, mud, toothpaste and food fights are not allowed.

Students may not play with fire extinguishers or fire alarms. If they cause unnecessary discharge of a fire extinguisher or activation of a fire alarm, they will be fined by the University and sent home by the Junior Statesmen Foundation.

12. Students are responsible for keeping their floor and room in good condition. Students will be assessed the cost of any damage or theft.

13. Students may not bring a car or other motor vehicle to campus. Students may not drive a motor vehicle, or ride in a motor vehicle driven by a minor, at any time during the Symposium. They may not ride in a motor vehicle driven by an adult without first obtaining the explicit permission of the Symposium Director.

14. Students will not be permitted to leave campus without permission. They may not leave with a relative (other than a parent or legal guardian) or any other adult unless written permission is received from their parents or guardian, in advance.

15. Students are not allowed to receive outside visitors without the Director's permission. After registration on the first day, parents of the opposite sex may not enter a student's room or entryway without permission of the Director. Students may not invite visitors into their dorm and may not associate with anyone not officially part of the Junior Statesmen Summer School program. This includes other student groups on campus.

16. Any photographs taken by Princeton University or Junior Statesmen staff and photographers during Symposium may be used in future promotional materials.

17. Students are also expected to conform to all other rules as announced by the Director or Assistant Director during the course of the program.

18. Students are expected to give their full attention to guest speakers in Trenton. If a student is caught using a cell phone or other electronic device during a speakers session, the device may be confiscated for the remainder of the day.

If a student violates the rules, his/her parents or guardian will be notified. If the violation is serious, the student will be sent home immediately with no tuition refund.

Violation of these rules can result in students being sent home without refund and other appropriate action.

VISITORS

Because the Symposium is a short, intensive week of politics and government, no visitors are allowed during the week. The only exception is that parents may visit. Parental visits, if necessary, should be limited to a few minutes in the evening and should not conflict with any scheduled event.

Students leaving campus at the conclusion of the program with someone other than their parents or guardian must provide written permission from their parents to do so. This permission must be received prior to the program.

WHAT TO DO IN ADVANCE

In the weeks prior to the Symposium, you should read articles on state politics in your local newspaper and watch local TV news. If you have access to *The Star-Ledger*, *The Asbury Park Press*, or *The Bergen County Record*, they tend to have the best coverage of state issues. Be sure to check out www.nj.com. Also, you may want to purchase or go to your local library and look through recent issues of *The New Jersey Reporter*, a monthly journal on New Jersey politics and government. Look for coverage of the issues previously mentioned, and keep in mind that the program will be shaped by the topics that interest you and your peers. We will also send you a speakers packet prior to your arrival at the Symposium.

IN CONCLUSION

Get ready for an exciting educational adventure that offers:

- a behind-the-scenes look at the workings of state politics and government in action.
- an opportunity to polish your speaking, analytical, and leadership skills so that you can play a more active role in your school and community.
- a front row seat for the deliberations of the executive, legislative and judicial branches of government.
- an opportunity to exchange ideas with powerful state leaders.
- a chance to discuss and debate some of the major issues facing your region with high school students from throughout the state.
- a week experiencing college life.
- an opportunity to make new friends as you experience first-hand the drama, politics and excitement of the world of government and politics.

If you are interested in reviewing a sample daily schedule, please visit the Symposium portion of the Junior Statesmen web site, www.jsa.org. While the speakers and topics will vary, the program will be similar to this schedule.

Please don't hesitate to contact Chris McMahan (cmcmahan@jsa.org), Program Director or Janna Craig (jcraig@jsa.org), Program Manager if you have any questions at (800) 317-9338.

NEW JERSEY SYMPOSIUM ON LEADERSHIP & POLITICS

PARENTAL PERMISSION SLIP

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY, AUGUST 11-14, 2008

NAME _____

HOME ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____ TELEPHONE(_____) _____

MALE__ FEMALE__ AGE____ BIRTH DATE ___/___/___

HIGH SCHOOL _____

YEAR YOU WILL GRADUATE FROM HIGH SCHOOL: 2009 2010 2011 2012 (circle one)

PARENTS' STATEMENT

We have read the orientation packet and we agree to allow our son/daughter to attend the Junior Statesmen New Jersey Symposium on Politics and Leadership, subject to all Symposium rules governing conduct both on and off campus. We understand that our son or daughter may be sent home during the session for any serious health reasons or conduct violations, without a refund. Symposium officials are authorized to obtain, at our expense, any emergency medical service that our son or daughter may require.

____Our child has had a recent physical examination and is in good health. He/she is physically able to participate in all aspects of the academic and recreational program of The Junior Statesmen Symposium.

____Our son/daughter has the following health problems and/or special needs of which you should be aware.

DATE

PARENT OR GUARDIAN SIGNATURE

Do you have health insurance?____ If so, what company?_____

Policy Number_____

Mother's daytime phone number (_____)_____

Father's daytime phone number (_____)_____

Mother's evening phone number (_____)_____

Father's evening phone number (_____)_____

Please return form by July 15, 2008

NEW JERSEY SYMPOSIUM ON LEADERSHIP & POLITICS

TUITION FORM

PRINCETON UNIVERSITY, AUGUST 11-14, 2008

NAME _____

PHONE(_____) _____

The Symposium tuition is \$495, and is due within 30 days.

Your tuition is refundable as long as you notify The Junior Statesmen Foundation, in writing, at least two weeks prior to the start of the program. However, in accordance with federal tax laws, any scholarship contributions given in your name are not refundable. If any service clubs, other organizations, or family friends are paying all or part of your tuition, please ask them to mail their check directly to the Foundation office in Washington, DC, with a note designating the money for your tuition.

If you have any questions about scholarships or tuition, please contact The Junior Statesmen Foundation at (800) 317-9338

____ Enclosed is my \$495 tuition.

I am paying by:

____ Check (made payable to The Junior Statesmen Foundation)

____ VISA ____ Mastercard ____ American Express ____ Discover

Card Number _____

Expiration Date _____

Card Holder's Name _____

Card Holder's Signature _____

**RETURN THIS FORM BY JULY 15, 2008 TO:
THE JUNIOR STATESMEN FOUNDATION
NJ SYMPOSIUM
1600 K St NW, Suite 803
Washington, DC 20006**

