

Jobs for America's Graduates New Jersey TRANSFORMING LIVES



December 2024

**JAG NJ Leaders at the
JAG National Student Leadership Academy
in Washington, D.C.**

JAG New Jersey Leaders Attend the JAG National Student Leadership Academy: Gallery

Ten outstanding JAG NJ Leaders from Plainfield High School, Pinelands Regional High School, and Rahway High School joined their peers from around the country at the 2024 National Student Leadership Academy in Washington, D.C.

This prestigious event provided an invaluable opportunity for our students to:

- Engage with esteemed policymakers: They met with Congresswoman LaMonica McIver, and Congressman Thomas Kean, Jr., and toured the offices of Senator Cory Booker, Congressman Andy Kim, and Congressman Donald Norcross.
- Develop essential leadership skills: The conference included a variety of engaging workshops focused on leadership development, civic engagement, and personal growth.
- Experience Washington D.C.: Students enjoyed exciting tours and immersed themselves in the vibrant atmosphere of our nation's capital.

We extend our sincere gratitude to Assemblywoman Linda S. Carter for her help in connecting us to DC legislators. We also thank our dedicated Specialists and chaperones for their hard work in making this an unforgettable experience for our JAG NJ Leaders.



Meeting with Congresswoman LaMonica McIver



Meeting with Congressman Thomas Kean, Jr.



Group picture with the JAG NJ Specialists!



Meeting at the office of Senator Cory Booker



So pleased to see Ken Smith, former President and CEO of JAG!

See more photos on our @JAGNewJersey social media pages



JAG New Jersey Leaders Attend the JAG National Student Leadership Academy: Gallery



Met Senator Adam Schiff during a tour at the Capitol



Leader-in-Waiting



Leader-in-Waiting



Specialists and chaperones on the move



On to the next NSLA activity...



Meeting at the office of Senator Andy Kim



JAG NJ: Step Into Success!



Plainfield High School's JAG NJ Specialist, Michael Esquerre, Honored as a Finalist for Governor's Educator of the Year

Michael Esquerre, a first-year JAG NJ Specialist at Plainfield High School, has been named a finalist for the prestigious Governor's Educator of the Year Award. This well-deserved recognition highlights Mr. Esquerre's exceptional dedication to education and his significant impact on students' lives. A certified social science K-12 teacher with over a decade of experience in Orange Preparatory Academy, Orange NJ (8th grade) and Plainfield School District, Mr. Esquerre continues to inspire and empower students through his work.

JAG Specialists Make the Difference! A Special Thank You to Our Dedicated JAG NSLA Specialists

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to the exceptional JAG NSLA Specialists who made this year's 2024 JAG National Student Leadership Academy (NSLA) an unforgettable experience for our young leaders: Jennifer Bogar-Richardson, Plainfield High School; Leon Bunion, Rahway High School; and Maureen Neuner, Pinelands Regional High School.

Your unwavering commitment, passion, and expertise were instrumental in creating a dynamic and inspiring environment. Your dedication to fostering leadership development, empowering our students, and building lasting connections is truly commendable. Thank you for your tireless efforts in shaping the future of our JAG Leaders. We are truly fortunate to have such dedicated and talented JAG Specialists on our team. Together, we are making a difference.



Pictured L to R: Maureen Neuner, Pinelands Regional High School, Jennifer Bogar-Richardson, Plainfield High School, Congresswoman LaMonica McIver, Elizabeth Clark, Plainfield School District, Michael Clark, Rahway High School, and Leon Bunion, Rahway High School

JAG New Jersey Leaders Attend the Annual Leadership Development Conference at Rider University

Governor Murphy Welcomes JAG NJ Leaders | State Career Association Officers Inducted



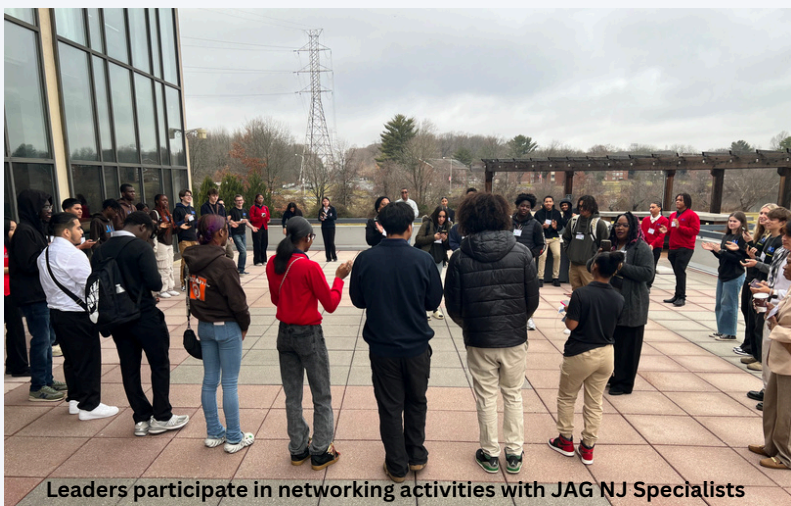
A momentous occasion! Seven talented JAG NJ Leaders from Plainfield High School and Pinelands Regional High School were recently inducted as New Jersey State Career Association Officers at Rider University on December 17, 2024. Over 200 JAG NJ Leaders from across the state witnessed this historic event, where the newly inducted officers were congratulated by Governor Phil Murphy and JAG National Career Association President-Elect, Austin Small. Assemblywoman Linda S. Carter graced the occasion with inspiring remarks. The conference was the largest in JAG NJ's history. We eagerly anticipate the remarkable achievements of these promising young leaders.



Officers getting acquainted with Assemblywoman Carter



The SCA President addresses the JAG NJ network



Leaders participate in networking activities with JAG NJ Specialists



Leaders participate in networking activities with JAG NJ Specialists



JAG NJ Specialists enjoying the networking sessions



Willingboro Career Association officers present their plan of work

JAG New Jersey Welcomes Partners and Workshop Facilitators to Leadership Development Conference

Thank you to the many volunteers who took time out of their busy schedules to support the JAG NJ students at the Leadership Development Conference. Your dedication to facilitating workshops and exhibiting at the career fair played a vital role in developing the leadership skills of these young individuals and broadening their understanding of career pathways in your respective industry sectors. Your insights and guidance have inspired our students to explore new possibilities, equipping them with the tools and confidence they need to succeed. We are deeply grateful for your commitment to empowering the next generation of leaders.

2024 Career Fair Exhibitors

- Colgate Palmolive
- International Union of Operating Engineers 825
- Jersey Shore BlueClaws
- New Jersey Staffing Alliance
- NJ Sharing Network
- Plumbers & Pipefitters Local Union 9
- Santander Bank
- U.S. Air Force
- Van Cleef Engineering Associates
- Withum

2024 Workshop Facilitators

Diana Altruz
Brian Barretto
Chris Brown
Edina Brown
Jared Baumgarten
Andres Gonzalez
Chris Lowicki
Samreen Malik
Roger McCloughan
Jamar Prewitt
Shivaun K. Young



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