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Contact: Derek M. Doyle
doyle@congressionalaward.org
(301) 676-3882

Reps. Malinowski, Payne, Jr. Honor New Jersey Youth with The Congressional Award

Summit, NJ (September 26, 2019) — Nearly 100 New Jersey student leaders were recognized by Congress for their personal goal setting and community service at a statewide Congressional Award ceremony held on Saturday, September 21, 2019.



New Jersey's Congressional Awardees with U.S. Representatives Malinowski, Payne, Jr., and special guests at Celgene Corporation.

U.S. Representatives **Tom Malinowski (NJ-07)** and **Donald Payne, Jr. (NJ-10)** presented the awards on behalf of Congress.

“I want to congratulate all 98 recipients of The Congressional Award for New Jersey,” said **Congressman Payne, Jr.** “I was excited to give our youth such a prestigious honor. I know it was not easy to earn. But they showed tremendous character in their commitment to the goals they set for the program. I am very proud of them and look forward to being part of the ceremony again next year.”

Congressman Malinowski assured guests that the future was in good hands with these students assuming leadership roles. “This country belongs to you, the young people. And it’s up to you to make it better. And that’s what you all have done - you’ve decided you must step up and do something.”

The event was made possible by **Celgene Corporation**, who once again served as the Title Sponsor and host venue. The global biopharmaceutical company has become a perennial partner of Congress’ award program for youth by supporting the development of the program both locally and nationally.

Celgene's **Rich Bagger**, Executive Vice President of Corporate Affairs & Market Access, and **Patrick Gliha**, Senior Director of State Government Relations and a member of The Congressional Award's Board of Directors, were on hand to congratulate this year's honorees.

The ceremony borrowed the talents of WABC-TV journalist **Anthony Johnson** as master of ceremonies.

New Jersey remains one of the most active states in The Congressional Award's national portfolio, ranking within the top ten states in both the number of enrolled participants and number of awards earned. The Garden State has produced 6,622 awardees all-time. There are currently 4,563 participants pursuing the award. The 98 New Jersey Congressional Award Medalists being honored this year have contributed 22,634 hours of voluntary public service to their communities.

Learn more about this year's recipients with the [ceremony program](#) and [photo gallery](#).

About The Congressional Award

The Congressional Award is the United States Congress' only charity and the highest honor bestowed upon a youth civilian through the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives. Established by Congress as a public-private partnership in 1979 under Public Law 96-114, the program recognizes initiative, service, and achievement in youth ages 13 ½ - 23. Learn more at www.congressionalaward.org.

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