

***KINGSWAY LEADS THE WAY AT NJ MODEL CONGRESS 2022!***  
***Gonzalez & Jukalkar are Outstanding!***  
***Boggi Selected as Senate President***

Two years after the pandemic, *NJ MODEL CONGRESS 2022* returned live March 17 & 18 on the Rider University campus to lively debate and great success for New Jersey students. Kingsway's delegation of 14 made strong showings in Committee and joint sessions of Congress.

*NJ Model Congress* offers high school students from the state of New Jersey the opportunity to simulate the experience of working in the U.S. Congress. Its objective is to educate students in the workings of our government and to encourage their active engagement in the democratic process. In preparation, delegates are tasked to select a topic and write a bill of legislation on that topic with the goal to persuade their congressional committees to vote it into law. Delegates had gathered this past December and February at Rider U to choose their leaders, hammer out their party platforms, and prepare for dynamic debate.

Kingsway sophomores Gabriella Gonzalez and Sujay Jukalkar earned honors as *Outstanding Delegates* in Committee.

In leadership roles, senior Michael Boggi led the way for Kingsway after being selected the *Senate President*.

Sophomores Dillon Dukes and Navya Srivastava earned positions as *Republican and Democratic Party Leaders*, respectively.

Outstanding Delegate Gabriella Gonzeles was chosen as the Whip of the *Independent (MOMMY) Party*, which stands for *Members of Mutually Minded Youths*.

And, Finally, sophomore Charlies West took on the role as Chairperson for the *House Committee on Government Reform*.

Below are comments from our Kingsway Delegates describing their experience at NJ Model Congress:

Macy Seraydadian (Senior) - "From the second I got there, I felt at home. There were so many people with so many different views, and I was able to make connections right away. I learned that you just need to open yourself up, and people will accept you for you. You can't be afraid to be yourself and stick up for what you believe in. Be confident. I'm so thankful for the opportunity to participate in NJMC. I'm sad to say goodbye, but I look forward to carrying these things that I learned with me throughout the rest of my life."

Andrew Conn (Senior) - "I'm very proud of Kingsway delegation. We all tried our hardest and we had fun."

Navya Srivastava (Sophomore) - "This was my second time participating in New Jersey Model Congress; however, it was my first time in-person. As a first-time party leader, I was invited to discuss our party's platforms with various students with ideologies that differed than mine. Having to adapt into different conversations with different students opened my eyes to new opportunities in the following years. The conference was a big learning experience for myself and I cannot wait to do it again next year!"

Dillon Dukes (Sophomore) - "I had an amazing experience as I was able to debate real-world policy and meet upcoming leaders across New Jersey. It was extremely beneficial to

me as I was able to gain communication skills and improve on my public speaking that will be very important for me in the future.”

Miranda Sterner (Sophomore) - “From this experience (in NJMC 2022) I learned to take the chances you are given in stride and try your hardest.”

Addison Torres (Freshman) - “I learned from this experience that no matter how scared you are to stick up for yourself and your views, do it. Opportunities don’t just show up randomly, they are put into your life for a reason. No matter how scared you are, be sure to take that opportunity and run with it because you would never know all the amazing memories and lessons you would learn.”

Juliana Jones (Freshman) - “Many people do not agree with my point of views on the political spectrum. But after visiting NJ Model Congress, it made me feel more confident to speak up for what I believe in and take the necessary steps to do what is needed to make a change.”

Plans for Princeton & New Jersey Model Congress 2022-23 are in the works and the future for Kingsway Debate is bright. To all students interested to learn more about *Model Congress, Debate Club*, as well as the *Public Speaking & Debate* class, you are invited to contact Mr. Andrew Young in Room 214 or email ( [younga@krsd.us](mailto:younga@krsd.us)). You will learn and apply skills that will serve you well beyond the walls of KRHS.



**Pic #1** - Outstanding Delegate & MOMMY Party Whip Gonzalez with Republican Party Leader, Dukes



**Pic # 2** - Kingsway's Delegation to NJMC 2022 (l to r rear) Conn, Jones, Torres, Pinheiro, West, Boggi, Srivastava; (l to r front) Seraydadian, Gonzalez, Sterner, Dukes, Jukulkar (Sujay), Allen, Jukulkar (Sujit)



**Pic #3** - Kingsway's Outstanding Delegates & Leaders to NJMC 2022 (l to r) Boggi, Jukulkar (Sujay), Gonzalez, Srivastava, Dukes, West.