



**For Immediate Release**  
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## **Hackensack High School's Egg Design to Represent New Jersey at Annual White House Easter Event**

**Trenton, NJ** – The New Jersey Department of Education today announced that a design created by a Hackensack High School student was selected to represent the State of New Jersey at the 141<sup>th</sup> annual Easter Egg Roll at the White House.

Following tradition, the U.S. Department of Education invited students nationally to design an egg reflective of their home state. Designs had to be emblematic, including elements such as the state flower or state bird. The New Jersey Department of Education selected the Hackensack High School's design to represent the Garden State at the White House event.

"I'd like to congratulate the Hackensack High School senior, Ahmed El Gazzar, on his design," Education Commissioner Lamont O. Repollet said. "We are always proud of the students who submit imaginative entries each year, and this year Ahmed is certainly making his hometown proud."

The winning design, which includes a background of New Jersey's state bird, the American goldfinch, has been submitted for display at the annual Easter Egg Roll at the White House. One of longest running White House traditions, the Easter Egg Roll was made permanent by President Rutherford B. Hayes in 1878. He legally permitted the local children to roll their prized Easter eggs on Capitol Hill the day after Easter, a tradition that actually had begun almost 50 years earlier under President James Madison and his wife Dolly.

Below is the Hackensack High School submission:

