

Torch: MDJCL

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Salvete! Thinking about this year’s plethora of upcoming MDJCL events has me brimming with excitement! To kick off this *novus annus*, Eleanor Roosevelt High School is hosting this year’s first certamen event. I cannot possibly think of a better way to start the MDJCL season than with a day full of Latin! This year will include a multitude of Latin activities ranging from enthralling competitions to captivating museum trips, ultimately leading up to our state convention next spring. With the help of our new officers, this year is certain to be one of the best yet! I hope you all are as thrilled as I am, and be certain to always check out your go-to source for all things MDJCL, the *Torch*.



The Torch and YOU!

Did you know that YOU, yes YOU can contribute to the Torch?! Well, you can! And you should! If you have something interesting to say or just feel like submitting something Classical related, do it!



#T-SHIRT CONTEST

Are you artistically inclined with an eye for design? If so, we want YOU to design our 2015-2016 MDJCL t-shirt! The deadline for submissions is January 2nd, which is when voting will begin. Designs are to be submitted at mdjcl.org/#tshirts and the winner will receive a special prize at State Convention! Limit one design per individual.



State Convention

The MDJCL 2016 State Convention will be hosted by Easton High School and held at the Country School from April 9-10.



National Convention

The NJCL 2016 Convention will be held at Indiana University, Bloomington from July 25-30. For more information, visit www.njcl.org.



National Convention: A Student's Experience

This summer, a small delegation of Latin students and teachers, including four students from Easton High School, attended a week-long convention in San Antonio, TX, known as the National Junior Classical League Convention. This convention, having just finished its 62nd year, was designed to unite classics students from throughout the country in various activities, academic and otherwise.

I, Laurel Pogue, and three other students, Erin Pogue, Ellie Kilmon, and Ella Joshi, are the first delegates from Easton High School to ever attend an NJCL Convention. Throughout the course of the week, all of the students in attendance were able to participate in a myriad of activities, including academic tests, roman sports, professor-taught specialty seminars, certamen (a jeopardy like competition), and several more casual events, such as dances, karaoke, and a talent show. Classics lovers from around the country were able to meet fellow aficionados, and many friendships were formed in the halls and on the grounds of Trinity University, and one could find a person willing to start a conversation or game of cards at every turn. However, it was not just fun and games; each academic competition was rigorous, and the victors were awarded greatly,

with scholarships and recognition before the assembled 1600 odd attendees.

Each of us who had the chance to attend know that this convention offered us many once in a lifetime opportunities. One of the best parts of convention was getting to enter the auditorium on the first day, and hear everyone cheering in anticipation for all of the things that were yet to come that week. Ella Joshi calls her first National Convention "an incredible experience," and I can only echo the sentiment and look forward to next year.

-Laurel Pogue, EHS Senior



Upcoming Events

Yale Certamen- November 7th (contact Katie Toth for additional details)

Linganore High School Saturnalia Certamen- December 12th

February Philadelphia Art Museum trip- date TBA

Meet The Officers!

You may be thinking, “Who are these people? Are they *cool* enough to be MDJCL officers?” Well, you’ll just have to figure it out for yourself.

1. Our Commander in Chief, a.k.a. “President”, Ellie Kilmon, is a self-proclaimed...

- a. three-year-old in a teenager’s body. b. hot sauce enthusiast.
c. bionic athlete of awesomeness . d. goddess of preparing h’ors d’oeuvres.

2. Ella Joshi, the vivacious Vice President, has played _____ since she was 5.

- a. the bassoon b. tennis
c. Chutes and Ladders d. slap bass

3. The editor of this fine newsletter, Liz Capuano, collects which of the following?

- a. chewed up pieces of gum b. copies of The Metamorphosis by Franz Kafka
c. cassette tapes of Beethoven’s 9th d. Christmas ornaments

4. Edmund Obeng, our very presentable Parliamentarian...

- a. enjoys ballroom dancing b. can make an excellent lasagna
c. ALWAYS wears a suit to school d. listens to progressive-folk music

5. Jonah Langlieb: The master of all things web, the Webmaster, has created...

- a. a model of Stonehenge out of fudge b. a porcelain statue of Guy de Maupassant’s moustache
c. a painting of George Costanza in the style of Alphonse Mucha d. a spinning, kinetic sculpture mobile for holding clothes

6. Our Historian who will go down in history, Katie Toth, is addicted to reading...

- a. existentialist philosophy b. absurdist philosophy
c. falafelosophy d. obscure manga

Answers: 1-a, 2-b, 3-b, 4-c, 5-d, 6-d

Information

Website: www.mdjcl.org

Twitter: @MDJCL

Facebook: Maryland Junior Classical League