Welcome!
Welcome back everyone! It is so nice to see everyone back together again! It is hard to believe that we are all back together in a new decade! I hope that you all will have a wonderful day! If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask any of the officers! Good luck to all of you who are competing today and a warm welcome to all those who may be joining us for the first time!

MDJCL Officers
President: Mika Kretzmann-Clough
Email: saromika@gmail.com
Vice President: Nathalie Trouba
Email: nathalietrouba@gmail.com
Parliamentarian: Michael Deras Gomez
Email: michaelderasgomez@gmail.com
Historian: Carolyn Tang
Email: carolyndtang@gmail.com
Editor: Grace Rish
Email: grsmiley43@gmail.com

Make sure you follow us on social media to stay updated on all things Latin!

@Maryland Junior Classical League  @MarylandJCL
@MDJCL  @Maryland_JCL
The Quest for the Gladiator!

It's back!!!

Rules:

1. Just like last Certamen there is a crossword puzzle attached to the Torch, this time it is the Lupercalia/Valentine's Day themed!

2. Instead of the Torches being on the tables like usual, they will be distributed at the same time at the beginning of the event.

3. You may work together and the first school to submit a correct puzzle to the editor will win the gladiator for their school! Good Luck!!

The Rules and Goal of Certamen:

The word Certamen translates to competition or contest. Even though this activity is a chance for students of all levels to show off their Latin skills, we still want everyone to have a good time! In order to ensure that this is possible the NJCL has set up these rules:

- All players and coaches are expected to conduct themselves throughout the entire Certamen process with courtesy, dignity, and respect for other teams and the Certamen staff
- Participants are permitted to bring mascots and good luck tokens as long as such items are deemed by the Certamen staff to be distracting or inappropriate
- During a round, coaches may encourage their team in a general way after the scores are read (5,10,15,19)-e.g."Good job guys! Keep it up!"
- Players may not converse with their teammates while the toss up questions are being asked or answered, but are allowed and encouraged to converse when answering the bonus question
- The designated team captain must say the answer to the bonus question unless the team captain diverts to another player
Announcements from the Officers:

- Hi everyone! The officers have a great new way for everyone to stay connected! Please join the Discord group: [https://discordapp.com/invite/nXzt7m9](https://discordapp.com/invite/nXzt7m9). Gratias tibi ago!

- It's time for the annual T-shirt contest!!!!
  Please submit your ideas to kunz.teach@gmail.com!

Member Submissions:

Your ideas should and could be here!! Please submit to the Editor at grsmiley43@gmail.com!

Upcoming Key Dates:

**February 29:** Spelling Bee and Exhibit (Loyola Blakefield)

**April 25-26:** State Convention (Easton)

Classical Pick-up Lines

Today's lunch activity includes classical pick-up lines! Here are a few examples from your officers!

- Cicero bibens in taberna tibi dixit, "dixit vigiles adsuntne? Quod me incendis." (Mika)
- Estne tuum nomen Porsepina? Quoniam tantum volo abripere te. (Carolyn)
- Are you Apollo? Because you are music to my ears and you light up my world. (Michael)
- Are you Augustus? Cause you're the princeps of my heart. (Nathalie)