



NJCL
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27 Events



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GROUPS



Latin Shout Outs



Brown Squirrel fans



Chariot street racers



Just as good as Caesar!

APPS



Latin Hangman



Pocket Edith
Hamilton's
Mythology



Ovidian burns

Update Status

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27

56 event invites

Trending: All News

The Convention Ear

...55 years of telling it like it isn't

Volume LVI, Issue I

Post



Ruiqi He

14 mins - NJCL President

Welcome home, National Junior Classical League!

Welcome to San Antonio, Texas, the site of the first-ever NJCL Convention back in 1954. It has been 12 years since we classy classicists have last convened at Trinity University to celebrate the NJCL's 50th Convention. We are gathered this week here in the Lone Star State, where the sun shines bright over chaparral shrubs, where football is all the rage, and where the "breakfast taco" actually exists. 1600+ of us JCLers have come to prove that the classics are indeed alive and thriving.

Each national Convention I've attended has given me innumerable new friendships and memories I know I'll treasure for the rest of my life. Thus, make the most of this week! Dive headfirst into events that may be out of your comfort zone without inhibition; don't be afraid to scream your head off during spirit processions; and introduce yourself to JCLers from other states. Who knows—these very activities you try could become your favorite convention memories, and the people you meet could grow into some of your closest friends.

Vergil encouraged us to "Yield not to misfortunes, but advance all the more boldly against them." Don't let anything hold you back this week—fearlessly give it your all and make it count. And, of course, don't forget to have fun and let your inner JCL geek shine. The rest will take care of itself. And now, let the greatest week of your summer begin!

E corde,

Ruiqi He

2014-2015 NJCL President

Like

↗ **Extra!Extra!:** This is *The Ear*. We strive to complete your convention experience with humor, hypole, and photoshop. And like so much on the internet, it's up to you what you want to believe. Look for us everyday at lunch!

↗ **Creative Arts**

Registration: is from 8:00 am to 10:00 am Monday in the Bell Center. Contestants in all Creative Arts Contests must confirm their intent to participate by signing up on the appropriate confirmation poster. If you don't confirm, you won't compete. Costume contestants must also complete and return a registration form with receipts and photo inserted into the provided envelope upon arrival at the Costume Contest.

↗ **Hiring:** The SCL is looking to recruit more lifetime cult members.

↗ **It's Personal:** To publish a personal in *The Ear*, legibly write your brief, and appropriate message on paper provided at the JCL Desk. Enclose this and \$1 in the accompanying envelope and leave it with the person at the desk.



Kurt Ristroph

35 mins - NSCL President

Salvete, omnes –

Welcome to nationals! As you step into the San Antonio sun along with your state delegation, allow me to encourage you to approach this week of fun with a smile. Why, you ask? Because much like the Avengers films, NJCL convention brings together the best of the best, the most powerful and interesting Latin students from across the world (and if you think my analogy is far-fetched, just wait – I hear Thor will be at convention this year). The SCL has returned in our usual support role for convention; we will be running Ludi, Olympika, and *That's Entertainment*, as well as writing these daily *Convention Ear* issues for your entertainment and reading pleasure. If you ever have a question, get lost amid the modern art and Orthanc-like tower that looms over campus, or need some help, don't hesitate to ask an SCLer for help.

I'll leave most of the welcoming for the underclassmen to the capable NJCL officers. Those of you who just graduated from high school, though, I would like to extend the Iron Fist of SCL in friendship to you. You have become, in our eyes, a slasher – a being who, much like Captain America in Age of Ultron (look, I'm going with a theme here), is worthy of wielding an object of mighty power – the SCL nametag ribbon – but isn't quite there yet. But you can budge the Mjol-nametag ever so slightly, and unlike Chris Hemsworth, we are happy to see that you can do so. Please feel free to come to our SCL General Assemblies, which are quite unlike their JCL GA counterparts, as well as our social mixer early in the week. We encourage you to make SCL friends, help out at SCL-run events such as Ludi, Olympika, and That's Entertainment, and strongly consider joining our organization. Remember: you don't have to be a classics major to join SCL (just ask the Louisiana delegation), you just need to have a fondness for the Classics and an interest in helping out, having fun, and making friends here at nationals. See you soon!

Kurt Ristroph
NSCL President



Natalie O'Dell

43 mins - NSCL Editor



#TBT #FirstConvention #Change #ShamelesslyObsessedWithInternet #NJCL2015



NJCL
47 mins

End of the Year Reports



Ruiqi He shared **NJCL's photo**
1 hr - NJCL President

Dearest JCLers,

It has truly been an honor and pleasure serving as your 2014-2015 NJCL President. This past year has taught me invaluable lessons and was empowering, humbling, and thrilling beyond imagination. Upon my election last summer, I came into the National Board with new ideas and a clear, realistic set of goals—to develop more effective communication across states and across the Executive Board and to expand the NJCL.

I am happy to say that progress has been made on each of these goals. Closely communicating with state JCL executive boards and the Executive Board itself, the states have been more in sync with the Executive Board than ever. Additionally, working closely with Minnesota JCL representatives, the Minnesota JCL has grown significantly within the last year, expanding the NJCL.

Besides the goals I had established for my own position this past year, I focused on one of the primary duties of the NJCL President—to facilitate the progress of the National Board. Throughout the year, I aided each of the officers with their own tasks and goals, from helping the Vice Presidents with publicity and service projects to writing outline agendas for the Communication Coordinator's minutes to submitting documents to the *Torch: U.S.* Each month, I led officer video chats to plan for convention, talk about our work, and discuss Packet Award submissions.

Another main task of mine was planning and lead-

ing the Fall and Spring Planning Meetings. For both meetings, I wrote officers' agendas in order to outline the various topics we wanted to go over and led the meetings themselves with parliamentary procedure. In addition, the officers and I planned for National Classics Week, which may have went down as one of the most successful Classics Weeks in NJCL history. Our National Classics Week-themed "Shake It Off" officers' lip-sync rapidly reached hundreds of views, our hashtag "#WhyClassics" was definitely a trending topic on social media within the JCL community, and we presented a new Classics Week packet, complete with a fresh format and carefully-designed graphics.

Last but definitely not least, I helped plan National Convention with my fellow board members. Scouting the Trinity campus, planning agendas, and discussing special events were just a few of the many tasks we accomplished at the Planning Meetings and throughout the year to ensure that you have a fantastic convention experience.

JCLers, thank you for giving me this opportunity of a lifetime. Thank you for the hilarious, crazy, wonderful memories and the unconditional love and support. Thank you all for inspiring me with your tireless passion that fiercely carries on the Torch of Classical Civilization.

Ab imo pectore,

Ruiqi He

2014-2015 NJCL President

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Maya Nandakumar shared **NJCL's photo**

2 hr - NJCL First Vice President

A great deal of my time was spent assisting current 1st VPs with their publicity plans for the year. A number of them have been added to the First VP Facebook page and are now actively sharing their plans. Working with President Ruiqi He, I revamped and rewrote the membership contest for 2014-2015. The revisions included removing the mentoring program and instead adding a social media category. In addition, the submission date was moved back about a month and half to allow VP1s to collect their materials and send them in on their own time.

In addition, I completely recreated the dying promotional video contest. Instead of only one specific category, I separated the contest into five distinct sections: promotion of classical studies, promotion of NJCL convention, promotion of state/regional convention, video about a mythological/historical story, and best vine. This year, we had a record number of submissions!

One of my largest projects this year was National Classics Week. Working with 2nd Vice President Narayan Sundararajan, I selected a theme which would connect the ancient world to the modern, and emphasized the impact of classical art: Seven Days, Seven Wonders of the Ancient World. I designed a packet that was completely different from previous ones due to its innovative look. While it still contained all the crucial information, the document also

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contained graphics for each day, allowing for greater outreach, since they could be easily displayed. Unique publicity and service activities were created for each day. All in all, this year saw the most successful National Classics Week ever. We really managed to create a powerful social media presence, as evidenced by the multitude of posts that came in on Rome's birthday. Additionally, there were favorite Latin quotes and mythological stories floating all around Facebook!

Furthermore, I designed new NJCL pamphlets with a more modern look and updated information. These were given to 1st Vice Presidents for their publicity campaigns. Indeed, large amounts of care packages were mailed throughout the country to various local chapters, aiding membership growth.

Working with Editor Amol Punjabi, I helped create a publicity spread in the Torch:US to spread some of the unique ideas that 1st Vice Presidents had been sharing with me. Additionally, a graphic on how to put together a care package was included.

I sent in details for a National Classics Week proclamation to President Obama, as well as a request for a presidential greeting. I also asked for a similar message from the Texas government for convention this year.

All in all, it's been a busy year but a rewarding one. I am honored to have served as your 1st Vice President this past term.

E Corde,
Maya



Narayan Sundararajan shared **NJCL's photo**

3 hr - NJCL Second Vice President

Salvete JCL!

It has been an honor to serve as your NJCL Second Vice President - I am so thrilled to have had the opportunity to work and converse with every one of you.

My goal this year was to increase spirit and service participation nationwide, by increasing submissions for Club of the Month and engaging in the community. To achieve the former, I worked more closely with individuals and chapters to ensure that the Club of the Month Contest was better publicized, and increased the incentives for participation by posting a short summary of the club's activities on the JCL Service Page. The number of submissions was beyond my wildest dreams this year - within the first month, I received more entries than the first seven months of the previous year!

To engage in the community, I worked with First Vice President Maya Nandakumar and President Ruiqi He to create social media campaigns promoting such

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service events as National Classics Week (NCW). With our "Shake it Off" video and NCW Packet, we alerted a wide range of JCLers to the amazing service opportunities available during that week. To continue this goal, at the time of this writing I am working on the "Vox Animi", a spirit and service newsletter that I hope will connect disparate parts of the JCL.

In addition, I had the pleasure of judging the Community Service contests, and worked with my fellow officers to design the spirit themes and prizes for this year's convention. I also planned our Service Project for the year - I highly encourage all of you to attend our Letters to Soldiers event!

None of this could have been possible without the help of my National officers, my spectacular mentor Ms. Jankowski, and of course, you. I hope to see you all more at convention! Keep the light of the JCL burning strong.

E corde,
Narayan Sundararajan



Aliyah Quereshi shared **NJCL's photo**

1.5 hr - NJCL CoCo

Salvete, v'omnes!

This past year has been a thrilling experience with my fellow officers. At our Google hangouts and in-person meetings, I recorded the highly energetic, idea-rich brainstorming and planning concepts we discussed throughout the year. Since it is the responsibility of the NJCL Communications Coordinator to take minutes during officer breakouts and at the full-session planning meetings both at both the Fall and Spring Planning Meetings, I took copious notes during those hours and, working with my mentor Mrs. Vasquez, made the minutes more accessible by including To-Do Lists for both the officers and the committee members at the beginning of all my minutes.

Thank you so much for the twenty Website Contest submissions from eleven local chapters and nine states. It has been such a pleasure to see all the hard work and creativity the webmasters have put into keeping JCLers informed throughout the year and

24 Likes

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publicizing your chapters beyond the classroom. You truly are passing on the torch of classical civilization in the modern world!

In preparation for convention, I entered the NJCL Convention schedule into the Sched app (introduced last year) and streamlined it based on your feedback. I've continued developing a JCL mobile app and will train the incoming CoCo to complete the app next year. I was not able to do as much with the website as I had hoped because it is undergoing a major overhaul, which involves ACL and SCL as well. It will probably be another year at least before we will have the site we are hoping for. The bulk of the work is currently being done by Mrs. Curler and Mr. Little in the ACL/NJCL Office in Ohio.

E corde,

Aliyah Quereshi

NJCL Communications Coordinator

2014- 2015



Amol Punjabi shared **NJCL's photo**

1.5 hr - NJCL Editor

This year, I published three issues of the Torch: U.S. For each issue, I assembled the content from state editors, the NJCL officers, and any other JCLers who wanted to contribute, and I wrote a feature article about a noteworthy classical topic connected to the modern world. I also had the honor of transitioning the Torch: U.S. to a digital form after 64 years of being in print.

The Spring 2015 issue was the first entirely digital Torch: U.S. including podcasts, videos, and photo slideshows. The feedback I've received on the new format has been encouraging and more JCLers from across the nation have enjoyed the Torch: U.S. due to the increased interactivity of its content. I hope by designing a new online format, my successors can continue

25 Likes

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to build on the digital Torch: U.S.

This volume of the Torch: U.S. has also included publicity and service updates from state and local First and Second Vice Presidents to promote the phenomenal service JCLers are doing to spread the spirit of the classics and of generosity to their communities. I have also worked on helping JCL editors to create more effective publications for their chapters by revamping the rubric for the NJCL Publications Contest. I was impressed by the creativity, hard work, and aesthetics of this year's contest submissions. Overall, it has been my pleasure to usher the *Torch: U.S.* into the 21st century digital age as your 2014-2015 NJCL editor.

Semper Vive Lingua Latina!



Ashley Blazek shared NJCL's photo

1.5 hr - NJCL Parliamentarian

Salvete JCLers,

This past year has been an absolute delight serving this fine organization. Here is a recap of my year in the life of an NJCL parliamentarian.

The adventure began right away at convention when I met the rest of the officer team and exchanged contact information and well wishes before we returned home. Back home, in North Dakota, I began to look at drafting a couple of small amendments to the Constitution, Bylaws, and Chapter Handbook, with the help of my advisor, Mr. Webb. In addition to preparing the amendments, I completed monthly reports and started talking to potential candidates for this year's election.

After months of anticipation, the trip to the Fall Planning Meeting in San Antonio, Texas, finally arrived. I was able to tour the beautiful campus which you are inhabiting this week, and to revel in the warm weather I was lacking back home. As a board we finalized the scheduling, talked about each of our tasks, developed the themed dress up days, and much more. I presented my amendments and they were approved to go onto the next round. Delegates will be voting on them this week! I also came up with the idea of having a scavenger hunt on campus this year. Be sure to check it out on Monday!

26 Likes

Over the winter, most of my energy was devoted to producing this year's Campaign Corner. After multiple rounds of editing and formatting, the 2014-2015 edition of the Campaign Corner was finally produced to help potential candidates with all of their election needs.

Spring Planning Meeting in Nashville, Tenn. came up rather quickly. At that meeting we finalized small details about convention and made a music video to promote classics week. My list of potential candidates was set for the summer as I began to help them with all of their needs. I strongly encourage you to come to the election events this week, such as Meet the Candidates, Nominations Committee Meeting, and the Candidates' Open Forum. The candidates have worked hard to prepare their campaigns and are anxious to visit with you.

Thank you so much for allowing me to represent this fine organization. It has been a privilege serving as your Parliamentarian. I can't wait for you all to enjoy the event into which the other officers and I have devoted so much time and energy, CONVENTION: Be sure to come up and say hello. I'd love to visit with you!

Optima vota,
Ashley Blazek
2014-15 NJCL Parliamentarian

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Suggested Post

Friend *ConventionEar* on SnapChat for more content through our story!



150 Likes

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