

The Convention Ear

62 (Years of Telling It Like It Isn't)



Monday, July 25th, 2022

Volume LXII, Issue I

25 Hour Convention Coverage

Savvy's Declassified Convention Survival Guide

Salvete, amīcī!

How to begin a welcome back letter in a year like this? Well, I'll start by playing to one of my strengths: providing unsolicited big sister advice.

Introducing ... *Savvy's Declassified Convention Survival Guide*. Here are some tips on how to make the most of this week.

1. WEAR SUNSCREEN and HYDRATE OR DIEDRATE. You'll make many friends this week, but Louisiana heat is a backstabbing bestie who WILL hurt you.
2. Speaking of friends: don't be afraid to put yourself out there! Branch out past your state. Sit with new people at lunch! Leave Louisiana with at least one new friend.
3. Even though it's tempting to pull a week's worth of all-nighters, please ... don't. Please. You'll thank yourself at the end of the week.
4. Support your state as much as possible — service project sessions, Certamen rounds, election activities — all the things!
5. Don't trod on the sod. In other words ... don't walk on the grass. OR ELSE.

This is by no means a comprehensive list. If you're ever curious for more, come say hi! I'm so excited to share in such a special week with you all, and I know it's going to be out-of-this-world.

All the love,
Savvy Thompson
NJCL President

Rachael's Review of Top-notch Tech

Welcome back everyone! For this third year of virtual convention, we've upped the simulation quality dramatically. It almost feels as if we're in person! Just try not to look at the birds too closely. If some SCLers tell you to "have a good day" or "avoid taking dangerous paths," pay them no mind; they are most certainly NPCs.

Taking a detour from the existential crisis that living in a simulation may bring you, let's talk about all the wonderful events and activities y'all can take advantage of this NJCL Convention. We have all of our regularly scheduled Ludi and Olympika while continuing some fan favorite E-lympika events such as the Mystery Test and Trick Shot contest. Make sure to check out *That's Entertainment*, which includes performances from talented JCLers and occasionally funny SCLers.

Also, to you slashers (JCLers who have graduated from high school but haven't started college yet) out there, come to our mixer at 8:00 PM Today! We will have snacks, snazzy games, and top notch discourse! Make sure to follow us @nationalscl for updates, memes, and more! Can't wait to see all of you, and don't be afraid to say hi!

SinCereLy,
Rachael Cox
NSCL President

A Letter from Liz, and a Look into This Convention's Ear Issues

Salvete, mi amici!

As many of us step foot onto Lafayette's campus, I am *jazzed* for each and every issue of *The Convention Ear*. I am so ready to be with you all, in-person, at last.

But in the time since we've last seen each other, I've been introduced to the wild world that is the SCL. We pull together *That's Entertainment*,

Ludi, Olympika, and *The Convention Ear*, all while surviving sleepless nights -- well, some of us, at least.

As a JCLer, you only see a glimpse of the action --- and unfortunately many of the Ear Office antics are obscured from view. Which is why I welcome not only Slashers, but all JCLers to the Ear's Office Hours (5:15 pm at the dining hall,

daily) to brainstorm article ideas, ask questions, and just get to know the SCL a little bit more (and that we, truly, have forgotten more Latin than you will ever know).

Congratulations on making it back to convention, and welcome to all first-timers!

Elizabeth Foster
NSCL Editor

NJCL Officer Reports

Savannah Thompson, NJCL President

Salvete amici!

First, I want to start with thank you. A year ago, I was elated to be elected as your president, and not a day has gone by that I don't smile (still in partial disbelief) when I think about it. While I had a lot of personal projects beyond my constitutional duties this year, I have limited space: here are ones most meaningful to me.

When I ran for this position, I knew I wanted to focus on many aspects of DEI in JCL. I worked on revisions to the NJCL Creed and Song, and was delighted to work on making our key statements representative and celebratory of our mission and its members. I also worked on fundraising ideas to get more students to national convention, a foundation I hope is built upon by future officers. I joined the ACL Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Committee as the first-ever student representative, meeting with them throughout the year to work on blogs, statements, document reviews, and more. Perhaps my proudest accomplishment, however, was the creation of a brand-new DEI Committee for JCLers and SCLers that received an astounding 60 applications. The committee (18 members total) has now split into five subcommittees, each focused on a different area of DEI in JCL. I am so proud of the work that has been done thus far, but I also know that this committee has great potential beyond my term

— I am excited to see it grow.

Outside of DEI efforts this year, I also created a Presidents' group chat, held meetings, worked with the pre-campaigning committee to review and revise NJCL policies, created an officer vlog, took over the Instagram during Classics week, attended Classicalia, crushed trivia on JCLive, led both the Fall and Spring planning meetings, worked on creating NJCL merch, and, of course, did A BUNCH OF CONVENTION STUFF. If you have questions about things I did but didn't get a chance to list/elaborate on here, feel free to come up to me and ask!

I hope you enjoy Convention — I know I will.

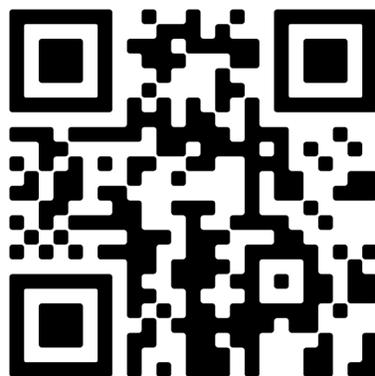
All the JCLove,
Savvy Thompson
NJCL President

Alex Chou, NJCL First VP

Salvete omnes,

I hope your convention is off to a stellar start!

Since my election, one of my primary responsibilities this year has been spearheading National Classics Week. This involved brainstorming a theme, composing the entries, and designing the layout of the booklet. In conjunction with National Classics Week, I organized the 2022 Classalia event; given this year's theme of "Ancient Influences in the Modern World," I invited star-studded guest speakers Boston Mayor Michelle Wu, UK Parliamentarian Baroness Susan Greenfield, Howard University Faculty Dr. Anika Prather, and former ABC News Correspondent Lynn Sherr to speak about the importance of classical education in their own career and personal growth. Of course, Classalia also included games, workshops, and activities, culminating in an out-of-this-world experience for all of our attendees! At Classalia, I released the 2022 National Classics Week packet, detailing the seven daily themes — arts, medicine, agriculture, law, education, social studies, and communication — revolving around our focal study on the diverse legacies of the ancient cultures on contemporary society. My updated National Proclamation



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Introducing ...

**THE JCL
WORDLE**

new words daily

Personals!

for \$1

(or 2 quarters, 2.5 dimes, 17 pennies,
and a piece of bubble gum)

YOU can

1. write a note to a JCLer, SCLer, or hamster (250 character limit)
2. pay your dollar to the NJCL Office
3. see your note in the next issue of *The Convention Ear*

Acquisition booklet was also distributed, to guide chapters through the rocky terrain of obtaining formal recognition of our mission. Overall, an absolute blast 🎉!

In addition to these initiatives, I have also provided resources on expanding our membership to state and local chapters. This included sharing a list of National Latin Exam participating schools to officers of each state, which helped them identify target areas for growing new chapters. Additionally, I hosted workshops throughout the year on a range of topics, including strategic beginning-of-year events and classics elective recruitment strategies in order to maximize publicity and promotional efforts.

During my term, I have also worked collaboratively with my fellow officers and the national committee to carry out an assortment of flavorful projects—ranging from writing for the *Torch: U.S.* to making officer vlogs, from meeting overseas club leaders to reviewing submissions for the publicity contest, and from posting material on NJCL's social media to writing for the campaign corner. Overall, this position has certainly been an added challenge on my plate, but I can confidently say that I savored every

moment of it 🌸!

Alex Chou
NJCL First Vice President

Nolan Heinrich, NJCL Second VP

Howdy, amici!

It's so nice to finally meet everybody in person. After being on the "COVID Boards" for two years, I'm glad to see that everyone is more than just a head and ceiling fan in the background!

Since being elected, I ended up making almost as many publications as Emma this year. Right after nationals, I got to work on this year's Club of the Month contest. I decided to take a unique spin on it by focusing on an underrepresented civilization or leader in ancient and classical history. Every month had activities inspired by the accomplishments of the highlighted group or person and was accompanied by a supplementary resource that clubs could use to learn more about them. A new addition for this year was the inclusion of "Summer Activities" that, while they do not count towards the contest itself, encourage chapters to stay active until the next COTM contest starts. (bit.ly/cotmpacket, ICYMI)

In October, the board met virtually at fall planning meeting. At FPM, along with the help of my officers, I finalized the spirit and dance themes for the year. I proposed DIY and Propless spirit at this meeting, and they will finally be coming to fruition since their initial conception by Athena and

Lyndie (2019-20 and 2020-21 NJCL 2VP's).

I then worked with Alex to plan National Classics Week. I was primarily responsible for the design of the NCW packet and spent most of my time compiling all of the officers' write-ups into a visually appealing publication.

In the final stretch of my term, I have been focused on planning Spirit and the national service project. In an effort to increase communication about all of this year's changes to Spirit, I created my third and final publication: 2022 NJCL Spirit and Service Guide (bit.ly/2022SSG). This has all of the information about Spirit, roll call, themed Cheers, and the service project.

I hope you all enjoy National Convention — whether it's your first, last, or somewhere in between — and take advantage of everything JCL has to offer!

Vale,
Nolan Heinrich,
NJCL Second Vice President

Dakota Marosi, NJCL Communications Coordinator

Amici,

For the first time in three years, we will see each other in person once again! Though we have had virtual conventions and Classicalia to tide us over, I think I speak for all of us when I say that it just isn't the same.

Over the past year, my fellow officers and I have worked tirelessly

to ensure that this convention helps JCLers return home, whether it be from the grounds of ULL or their computer screens.

Planning began directly after 2021 convention ended, when the outgoing officers and the incoming officers convened. It was a “passing of the torch,” if you will.

August to October was mostly spent planning. In August we met to discuss the NJCL Creed, which was in the process of being reconstructed in order to reflect the organization’s efforts towards inclusivity and fellowship. In September I prepared for our annual fall planning meeting. For two straight days in October, the board met digitally in order to hammer out the details of convention. It was at this time that I joined the *Domi* committee, wherein I served to help organize how we were going to deliver convention to participants that had to join from home. It was on this committee that I achieved some of my proudest work – I am hopeful that the digital offerings we created will help offer a more affordable and attainable event that will expose many to the JCL.

From the period between fall planning meeting (October), and spring planning meeting (February), the board and I had our largest workload of the entire year. We worked on Classicalia, National Classics Week, the Song and Creed revisions, our own

proposals and duties, and preparation for spring planning meeting. In February, we met in person at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette to finalize convention details.

Throughout all of these meetings and projects, I maintained my regular duties in keeping minutes, facilitating correspondence, creating meeting agendas and scheduling meetings, judging the website contest and currency points, and carrying out other work which I wanted to complete. In addition, I collaborated with my board to produce amazing projects: the NJCL Officer Vlogs, VOICES within the *Torch: U.S.*, Classicalia events, and much more.

Though this year hasn’t been an entirely normal year, I am immensely proud of the work our board has done, and I cannot wait to see what it all amounts to in Lafayette.

Si vales, valeo,
Dakota Marosi
NJCL Communications Coordinator

Talha Ali, NJCL Parliamentarian

Salvete Amici!

First of all I want to thank you for giving me this incredible opportunity to serve on the NJCL Board. It has been such an amazing experience and I am so thankful to have had a wonderful executive board and national committee with me.

Since being elected I met with Mr. Compton in order to discuss our goals for next year. I created a “Which Officer Are You” buzzfeed quiz as a way to introduce officers in a fun way! The best part of the beginning of my term was being able to bond with my NJCL Board even if it was just through Zoom.

As the fall planning meeting approached, I finished up my projects such as the “*So You Want to be a Parliamentarian*” Guide as well as releasing officer vlogs to increase candidate submissions! At FPM I became a part of two committees, one on pre-camapiging and another on planning Convention *Domi* which were both a huge success.

Following fall planning meeting I continued to work on amendments for the spring and began to recruit potential candidates for national office.

I was able to attend our spring planning meeting in person which was a blast. I learned about the campaigning spaces available at ULL and made a plan for our return to in-person camapiging. I released the campaign corner, I worked with the other officers to make it more comprehensive and included many tips and deadlines that are helpful. I sent in articles for the *Torch: U.S.* Voices as well as writing for the National Classics Week packet. Throughout this all I remained in contact with state parliamentarians and had frequent Zoom meetings.

Mr. Compton and I met with the state chairs to discuss changes to the NJCL election procedure. I was able to release the spring planning vlog as well start the initiative of officer take overs on the Instagram in order to increase candidate submissions! I was able to vote on the new NJCL Song and Creed which was a great step in making a more inclusive NJCL!

Lastly, I want to welcome you all back to in person convention! Make a new friend, bring the JCL spirit and have a blast! I look forward to sharing it with you!

E corde,
Talha Ali
NJCL Parliamentarian

RUSH SCL!

Join new and current SCLers at tonight’s NSCL Mixer for snacks and lemonade in the Magnolia Ballrooms A&B!
Slashers welcome :)

Irene Calderon, NJCL Historian

Salvete amici!

Although it saddens me how quickly my time in the JCL is drawing to a close, I'm beyond grateful for having the opportunity to serve as your historian and for being able to see you all face to face here in Lafayette!

Since the start of my term, I've been keeping the JCL Bookshelf (jcl-bookshelf.com) up to date. When I first made this website as editor last year, my original goal was for it to be an archive of state and local publications, but it has since blossomed into featuring scrapbooks and representing states from Arizona to Wisconsin.

I have been judging the Photo of the Month contest, inherited from my awesome predecessors. It was as inspiring as it was enjoyable to see how JCLers around the country have gradually returned to normal after an eventful two years! I have also connected with state historians through our Historians' GroupMe, forms to gauge their opinions on the scrapbook, and by hosting a meeting for historians back in February.

Aside from my roles as Historian, the NJCL officers have been hard at work. We helped iron out the Song and Creed, wrote Kahoot questions and hosted an Instagram takeover for National Classics Week, checked in with each other frequently to keep track of our progress, and had an amazing time becoming friends. A lot of us had the opportunity to see each other in person during spring planning meeting, which was here in Lafayette! Finally, for the last few weeks, I've been working on the scrapbook. I

can't wait for you all to see it! I'm also excited to host a colloquium during convention along with my fellow officers for historians, so stay tuned!

It's been an honor and pleasure to serve on the NJCL Board for the past two years! *Gratias maximas vobis ago* for giving me wonderful memories to look back on and for your invaluable contributions!!

Ab imo pectore,
Irene Calderon
NJCL Historian

Emma Canga, NJCL Editor

Salvete, plurimum!

They say that time flies when you're having fun, and my term as editor was no exception. Ever since I began my editing journey in the JCL, it has been my dream to hold this office. Looking back, I cannot think of a better end to my high school JCL career. At the beginning, the previous NJCL Editor and current NJCL Historian Irene Calderon helped guide me through the position (thank you, Irene!), so, fear not, my successor, you can always contact me with any questions or concerns.

For the first edition, there was quite a quick turnaround, but with the support of the NJCL Board and Committee, we were able to produce a beautiful fall edition. Speaking of fall, the board and committee postponed our first in-person meeting by holding the fall planning meeting online. Nevertheless, it was a wonderful break from the senior year and college applications. On the other hand, we finally reunited in Lafayette for the spring planning meeting which was strategically held in February,

Write for The Ear!

They usually say "don't get any funny ideas," but not us! Email your submissions to editor@nscl.org with the subject line

"EAR SUBMISSION."

Don't forget to include your name, state, and ID!

Want to brainstorm ideas? Ask questions? Hang out?

Come to the Ear Office Hours!
5:15 pm, Mon-Thurs, Dining Hall

pre-Louisiana heat wave. Shortly after, I released the spring edition of the *Torch: U.S.* and began spamming you all for submissions for the summer edition!

I can't thank you all enough for the unwavering support throughout my term. As my fellow editors know, publicizing submission opportunities is only half the battle, the other half being delegate participation, and you all shot those numbers through the roof! I've had so much fun getting to know you all through the beast that is the "NJCL Chat" and can't wait to meet you all in-person. Please, if you see me, say hi! I'm from Wisconsin, and we are all friendly off the court! Thanks to you all, we were able to keep the JCL spirit alive online for the past two years, and our return to in-person events will be the highlight of the year.

Enjoy Lafayette! I hope the Fargodome withdrawal symptoms will be alleviated by the iconic nature of Blackham. Have fun and don't forget sunscreen because skin cancer exists.

Gratias et vale!
Emma Canga
NJCL Editor

