

VOX LATINA

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Latin Club**

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JUST LATIN THINGS

The Advantages of a Latin Scholar

If you're a Latin student, you probably have a very unique skill set, in addition to a unique set of problems. Probably the most common problem of a Latin student hearing people call it a "dead language." And while it's true Latin is not spoken in any modern country (except the Vatican, I guess) it is most definitely not dead.

First of all, The National Junior Classical League is the 2nd largest youth organization in America, just behind the Boy Scouts. Last year's national convention saw over 1,600 people in attendance, and that's not including the countless young men and women studying Latin who have not yet had a chance to be part of this great organization.

Furthermore, Latin impacts modern English in a major way: derivatives. (Did you know that the word "derivative" is actually a derivative of the Latin word "rivus"???) A Latin student in English class will most likely be able to recognize almost every word on the

vocabulary list because the vast majority of English words are derived from Latin! (Spanish students can't do that!)

Another upside to Latin class is the history. Learning Latin covers more than just what the Romans spoke. From the class alone, you'll

learn so much more, especially from the years 800 BC to 500 AD. The language also drastically increases your knowledge of Roman and Greek culture, literature, and mythology.

Of course, Latin also has its downsides. Only Latin students understand the struggle of conjugating 3rd conjuga-

tion verbs and making forms of neuter nouns. Really? Did the Romans have to make it this difficult???

So, when you're called a nerd for taking Latin, explain to that ignoramus (from the Latin root *ignorare*) all the advantages Latin has given you. After all, they'll probably be working for you someday!

- Julia Dean and Davis DeFoor



Summit students Joseph Delamerced, Tullus Dean, Dustin Argo and Caroline Klette play certamen

A HISTORY LESSON

Carthago Delenda est!

Rome, you may have heard, wasn't built in a day, and neither was its far-reaching and long-lasting Empire. That Empire, in fact, was built and maintained for centuries through brutal military dominance, and it fought bloody wars against many other civilizations across the Mediterranean, into Africa, Europe and Asia. But perhaps no enemy the Roman people faced was as hated and feared as the North African city-state of Carthage (in modern day Tunisia).

The Romans and the sea-faring Phoenicians of Carthage fought the three famous Punic Wars over 125 years, during which Rome alternately suffered humiliating defeats—and achieved great victories. The second Punic War is famous for the Carthaginian assault on Roman territory from the North, as Hannibal's vast armies (between 60,000 and 100,000 men!) crossed the Alps with war elephants. While he secured many victories during this legendary campaign, Hannibal failed to decisively defeat Rome and permanently sever its relationships with its allies. Fighting between the two sides dragged on for nearly 15 years, and the Carthaginians were ultimately forced to surrender in 204 BC following a stunning defeat by superior Roman cavalry forces in the Battle of Zama on the African mainland.

In defeat, the Carthaginians found themselves harassed by their neighbors, the Numidians. However,

under the terms of their surrender in the Second Punic War, they were forced to appeal for help to the Roman Senate, which had little affection for their former enemies. The Senate's arbitration of the matter dragged on for decades and was heavily slanted against Carthage. Frustrated and aggrieved, the remnants of the once great city-state mounted a military campaign against the Numidians, but were soundly defeated.

Members of the Roman Senate, though, were disturbed by this uprising of militarism among its defeated enemy. The great orator Cato the Elder was particularly adamant about the need to destroy Carthage



Hannibal crossed the Alps with war elephants

once and for all. He famously ended all his speeches (regardless of the topic) in the Roman Senate with the exhortation, "Carthago delenda est" or "Carthage must be destroyed!"

The Third Punic War lasted just three years, ending in 146 BC. A long siege of Carthage ended when the Roman general Scipio Aemilianus razed the city. The remaining population of 50,000 was sold into slavery; the city was systematically sacked and burned to the ground over 17 days; and, legend has it, the land was "sown with salt," making it impossible to ever repopulate the area.

Finally, Carthage had been, once and for all time, destroyed.

Finally, Carthage had been, once and for all time, destroyed.

- Beckett Schiaparelli

CLASSICS IN THE NEWS

Rome is getting a makeover!

The Flavian Amphitheater (also known as the Colosseum) is possibly the most recognized building in the world but soon it may be getting a bit of a face lift thanks to Diego Della Valle, president of the luxury Italian leather brand Tod's. In exchange for advertising rights, the multi-billionaire has furnished 33 million US dollars for the project.

He has been given permission to begin restoration in March of 2016. The restoration will include "cleaning of the travertine exterior, the restoration of underground chambers, new gating, the moving of visitor

service stations to an area outside of the building itself and increased video security."

The building, which generates 35 million euros a year in tourism revenue for the Italian government has been in need of renovations for several years due to motor vehicle traffic in the area but some interest groups believe the restorations will be worse for the ailing monument. There have been reports of some powder and rocks falling from the great architectural structure, which they speculate could be made worse by construction. They claim that the law forbids restoration of large architectural buildings, whereas mosaics, statues, and other smaller works are acceptable. However the constant nearby automobile traffic and foot traffic have caused renovations to be a necessity.

Now the question is presented - does the public take up arms against the preservation of the ancient building, or do they allow a private company to go to work on their public reminder of the past?

-Tullus Dean



A side view and Aerial view of the Colosseum



TECHNOLOGY

Mythology Meets Modernity

Mythological gods had many items to represent them, including different tools. For Zeus, lightning bolts; Perseus, intimidating with his earthshaking trident; and Artemis, skillful with her bow and arrow. Even heroes had their own set of gadgets. The first hero that many come to think of is Perseus: a magic bag, winged sandals, and a shining shield.

But it's not only technology that characterize these unique characters. Stories of Sisyphus' trickery, Atalanta's swiftness, and Heracles' strength all are distinct aspects mythology. These people, however, could have greatly benefited from what the modern world knows today.

(Warning: Mythology may be considerably condensed now due to these recommendations.)

Apollo must have a Tinder.

"Hey, Daphne, are you on Tinder?"

"I swear to the gods, Apollo, I am swiping sinistra on you."

Sisyphus needs Journey.

"Don't stop... believing... hold on to that rock, yeah..."

On that note, Ixion would have loved Johnny Cash.

"I fell into the burning ring of fire, and at this point I kind of just deal with it now."

Cassandra would have loved a lie detector.

"You see that? Do you believe me now? This clearly says I'm telling the truth!"

Odysseus could have used Google Maps. Especially the weather updates to recalculate routes.

"Honey, I'm back home! Wouldn't it be weird and really terrible if I had to wander around for ten years, meet a witch, and have to beat up a lot of guys when I came home?"

"That's oddly specific, but yes, that... would be pretty bad."

- Joseph Delamerced



STATE CONVENTION TIPS

How to Succeed at State Convention Without Really Trying!

AH so you chose to participate in the costume contest at state convention this year, huh? Your first time, I hear? WELL NEVER FEAR, YOU YOUNG OVERACHIEVER. I, too, was in your position once, and am here to set straight all the confusion surrounding such a weird and nerdy contest. Use this handy-dandy 5 step guide to succeeding in the state JCL convention costume contest!

RESEARCH: You've found what the contest characters are for this year, but what next? Study up on your character; know their family and myths they're in, as well as different ways mythology writers have described the way they look. Don't forget to have a typed bibliography of your sources for pre-judging!

PLAN: Draw out how your costume is going to look. Who cares if you're the worst artist on this side of Olympus! This is just to have a plan of what you want your costume to look like. You are scored on knowledge of Roman & Greek clothing styles as well. Take all that you researched and slap it on your design (Zeus would have a lightning bolt, Artemis would have deer, etc).

SHOP: Hobby Lobby and Michael's will become your best friend in this arduous endeavor. Never sewed before? Want to know the best way to glue rhinestones on fabric? Don't know how to make a life size chariot while staying under the \$40 max, but still having a decent costume? Google and craft store employ-

ees are god-sends. Be sure to focus on that \$40 limit, & if you're interested in taking this beauty to nationals, keep your receipts!

WORK: Procrastination is your worst enemy here as the deadline begins to sneak up on you. This is when I follow the advice of my hero Shia Labeouf, "Just do it!" Dive in and don't stop, even when your sewing machine isn't working and your toga is making you think "tog-uhh why did I decide to do this". It's a rough and long experience that takes practice and patience. You may want to give up half way through and throw away your sad attempt at a tunica. Don't.

Because if you do, you'll miss out on my favorite step...

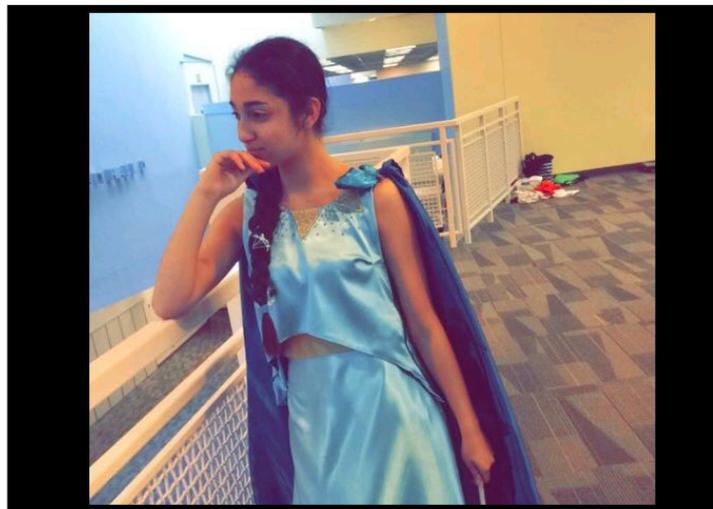
PRESENT AND WIN: You did it! You made it to convention with a semi-whole costume with some beads falling off here and there. You make the long and empowering (or humiliating) walk to your judging room in your costume for all of the JCL to see.

You stand there, in front of those unsmiling judges, open your mouth and present. It has all come down to this. Woo them with your astute research and explanation of materials, while not mentioning the hours you spent crying over a hot glue gun or rolls of different colored fabric. This is your time to shine.

GOOD LUCK AND HAPPY COSTUMING

-Hali Clark

(Multi time 1st place costume winner)



Hali Clark Judges her Costume Competition

STATE CONVENTION PREP

Davis DeFoor's All Inclusive State Convention Packing List

- Everything found on the standard packing list
- Playing Cards
- Candy
- Handheld entertainment (for when you're waiting for lunch)
- Chargers
- An alarm (to ignore)
- Tissues for when you see your scores
- Don't forget candy
- A shield to push crowds out of the way
- Seriously bring candy guys, you will be popular
- Friends (optional)
- Water bottle for when you lose your voice
- An extra epipen for when people eject your main one
- While you're at it, just bring a lock for all your stuff (Trust no one)
- Gum for your optional friends
- Pepper spray for all your enemies
- Extra body bags, also for your enemies
- Toothbrush
- Soap (or just steal it from the hotel)
- Shampoo - see above
- And finally - fun!

-Davis DeFoor

The Toga:

Step 1: Obtain a bedsheet. While not the most luxurious of materials, the bed sheet is the most common and versatile material used in DIYing a toga.

Step 2: Take the corner of your sheet in one hand. Leave about 6-8" at the end. Hold in front of the top of one of your shoulders.

Step 3: Wrap sheet around body and under one arm.

Step 4: Bring up the second corner. After bringing it across your chest, under your right arm and around your back, bring the second corner up over your back to the top of your shoulder.

Step 5: Tie in a double knot, safety pin, or pin with a decorative Roman style pin.

Step 6: Finish your convention-ready look with Roman jewelry and your convention name tag.

-Caroline Klette

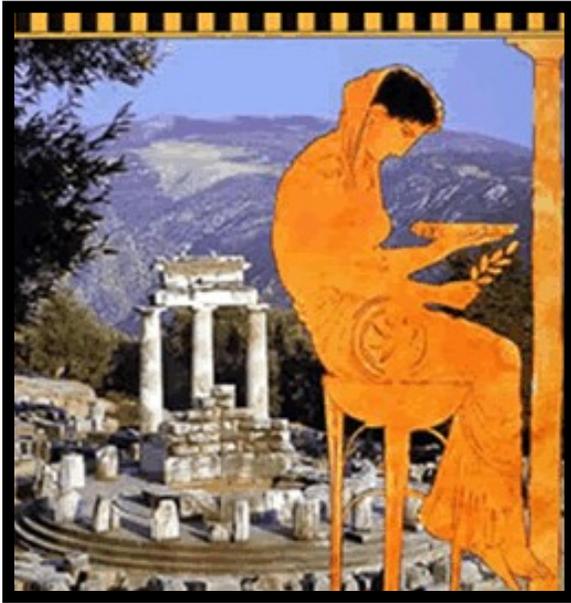


Latin students show off their togas and awards

ADVICE

GET ADVICE FROM THE ORACLE HERSELF!

Ask the Oracle of Delphi!



Need relationship advice? Ask the ancient crone who sees the future: The Pythia, through whom Apollo himself speaks the truth (...though, admittedly, sometimes it can be a little hard to decipher).

This Month's Question: *I've been struggling with choosing a college. My father wants me to go to The Ohio State University (his alma mater), while my girlfriend wants me to go school in New York City with her because we've both been accepted at*

NYU. I like both schools and I don't know how to choose between them. What should I do?

And the Oracle says: "First, sacrifice to the warriors who once had their home in this island, whom now the rolling plain of fair Asopia covers, laid in the tombs of heroes with their faces turned to the sunset..."

Follow up: *Whoa! Sacrifice? What kind of sacrifice? You want me to kill something? Like some birds or something?*

The Oracle: "Whenever a mule shall become sovereign king of the Medians, then flee by the stone-strewn Hermus, flee -- and think not to stand fast, nor shame to be chicken-hearted!

Follow up: *Hmm. So if I'm understanding correctly, you're calling my dad a mule and saying I shouldn't be a chicken and stay here in Ohio, but go to New York. That's great! Thanks for your help...*

The Oracle: "No problem. Don't forget to leave your sacrifice in the alms box by the door. Five golden drachmas should cover it."

Perplexed by a personal relationship issue? Ponder no longer! Send your inquiries to the Oracle c/o Vox Latina. Email Editor Eliot Schiaparelli at ESchiapa@gmail.com

TRAVEL

TO ROME AND BEYOND

Latin Comes to Life

This summer I had the opportunity to travel to Italy where I was dazzled by the history I could see all around me. History that ranged from the Vatican (where Pope Francis makes history every day and Latin is

the official language) to the ruins of ancient Rome (that I've learned about since I began taking Latin in 7th grade.)

The Colosseum was breathtaking, although the lines for the bathroom were extremely long! I learned more about the Christians who were persecuted there

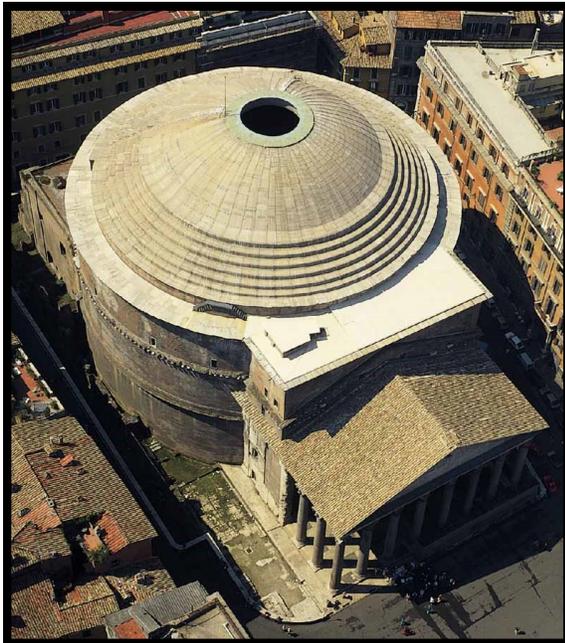


The ruins of the Roman Forum

amous cross commemorating the many deaths that occurred in the ancient structure.

The Roman forum was also incredible. We were able to see the ruins of many ancient Roman temples straight out of my Latin textbook. In addition, the Pantheon, which became a Christian Church, is still in relatively decent shape. It was massive and extremely moving to see.

We also visited the ancient cities of Pompeii and Minturno. Pompeii was extremely crowded and had rather forward vendors. Minturno, which had been located along the Via Appia boasted an impressive theater. It also had enormous baths and we were able to recognize the heating structures for the Caldarium.



An aerial view of the Pantheon

Another Latin student who happened to be on the trip and I attempted to decipher the ancient Latin inscriptions through out Rome and the Vatican. We even took a picture in a ditch along the Via Appia similar to the one on which Ecce Romani spends several chapters.

-Eliot Schiaparelli



The area under the caldarium used to heat the bath

and even corrected my tour guide when she attempted to explain to us that a downturned thumb meant death for a gladiator when in fact we don't know what the gesture was. Another fact I learned was there is an enor-

SUMMER

NATIONAL LATIN CONVENTION TEXAS

NJCL Convention

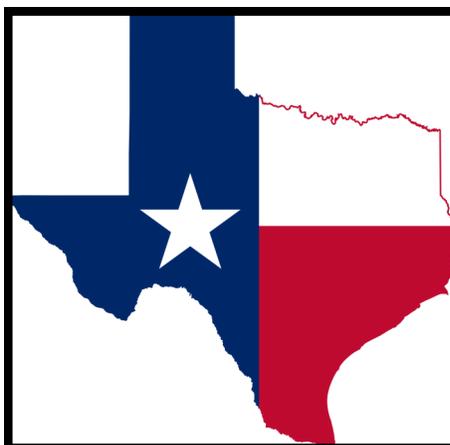
This past NJCL convention in San Antonio, Texas at Trinity University was an amazing experience. Surrounded by passionate Latin students from across the country, there is almost anything for any kind of person to participate in, whether it is Cer-tamen, academic testing, Ludi, or even just playing cards at the game room for 5 hours straight. Nothing feels better than knowing that everybody is so friendly because you are able to sit down anywhere with anybody and make lifelong friends whether they are from your state delegation or all the way from California.

My past convention consisted mainly of ping-pong, cards, and other peculiar games with my friends. I met new people from Ohio through 1-point Ping-Pong tournaments at night and through screaming with them for a full 15 minutes in a room filled with hundreds of other students. I was even able to meet people from Texas, Georgia, and Massachusetts by playing cards with them for just an hour and

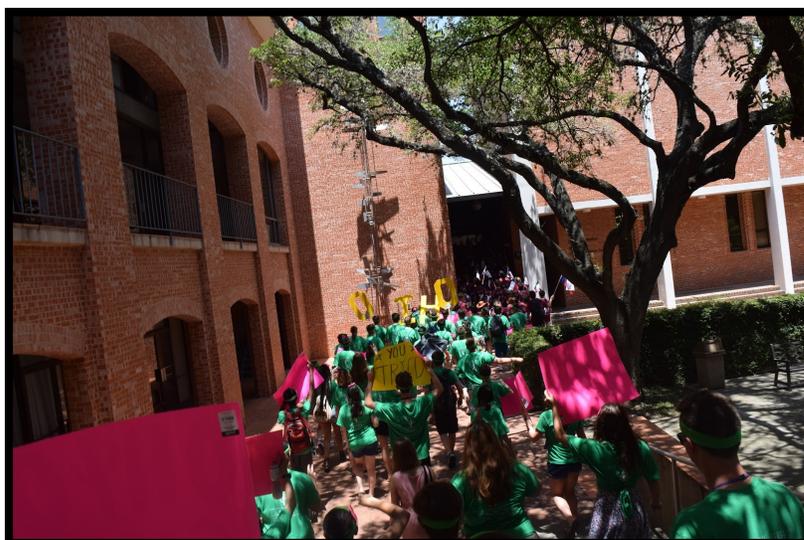
we instantly became friends. These people are some of the coolest and nicest people I know, and we still keep in touch today and are already planning to meet at next year's convention.

I encourage everybody that has never gone to the NJCL convention to come to the next one at Indiana University. I can guarantee that it will be a good time as long as you put the effort into meeting new people and getting out of the room.

-Patrick Casanas



The NJCL convention was held in Texas this summer



Students from cheer on their way into nationals

SOCIAL

CONVENTION!!!

5 Reasons You Should Attend National Latin Convention

1. Academic Contests.

I know it doesn't seem all that fun to take tests over summer break, but the great thing about Nationals is that you get to choose what tests you plan to take in advance and study for the test or tests you are interested in. Tests at Nationals are a great way to compete and earn points for your state. In addition you receive personal fulfillment from all of your hard work and studying as you sit on top of the leaderboards receive all of your high-place ribbons at the awards ceremony.

2. Ludi

Ludi and Olympika athletic competitions. They include both team and solo events. The best thing about these competitions are that you can go try something new and just have fun. I had never played volleyball before except for middle school gym class, and because the people who signed up from Ohio slept in, I had to step in and play for them. I found out that volleyball is actually pretty enjoyable and I wouldn't hesitate to do it again next Nationals. An even bigger plus is beating Wisconsin in a Ludi event because there is no greater feeling than beating those cheeseheads in every possible way.

3. Graphic arts

I personally am not a very artistic guy so I don't do too many graphics arts projects, but like all the other great opportunities at Nationals, you get to pick and choose what you want to do. I personally like model building so I usually go for categories like that. There are some people who can crank out all graphic arts projects known to man

and they love it, so if you are an artsy person, or even if you're not come to nationals! Seeing projects you spent so much time on place lets everyone see the hard work you dedicated and then you even get rewarded with ribbons and other prizes.

4. Creative Arts

Creative arts are things like dramatic interpretation, writing an oratory, or reciting Latin from memory. I personally am not very good at this kind of stuff but the people that do it seem to enjoy it a lot, and if you are one of those kinds of people I strongly recommend you come to Nationals and earn points with your creative skills.



The JCL Torch

5. New Friends

I saved the best for last. Especially for those of you who have been lifer's at Summit, the people at the school pretty much entirely make up your circle of friends. State convention is packed full of activities which is great, but you don't have all of the opportunities to meet people like you do at Nationals. Not only do you get to better know people within your own school, you'll meet and become friends with people from schools all around your state and all around your country. I met so many wonderful people from all over the place at Nationals, I'm in fantasy football leagues with friends I met from California to Louisiana to Massachusetts and when I always look forward to seeing my out of Ohio and out of Summit friends at Nationals. So, if no other reason convinced you, come to meet lots of new and great friends.

-Michael Warden

NEW YEARS

NEW YEAR—MORE LATIN

S L F X U M F S U U X B C T
V A T G O G L C E R T A M E
N A U Y N O F I L C J O F S
U S L L T Y E S F R C M X C
L N Z L S M C S V F I E J Z
E A Q I K O W A W J E Y C A
N J N F W C A L W F O J E R
E H T O P X D C B M A S L P
C W R Q I V J D N O I Y S G
Z J I E S T R L V C T F T P
P Q H G V C A C A P W C A Z
Q U I Q W Y R N U T S N T M
X L H N C B T F E Q I N E L
G M K V F Q F U L S S N S D
R A O B E V I T U C E X E G

CERTAMEN

CLASSICS

EXECUTIVEBOARD

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NATIONALS

NJCL

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STATE

Email Editor Eliot Schiaparelli with answers to the following questions about the articles in this edition of Vox Latina to win a special prize.

1. Where was this summer's National Junior Classic League's convention?
2. Which of Michael Warden's "5 Reasons You Should Attend National Latin Convention" is the most convincing to you?
3. How much will the renovations to the Colosseum starting in March cost?