Dear Summit Latin Students and Parents:

The Ohio Junior Classical League 2016 Convention will take place in Columbus OH from the afternoon of Friday, Feb 19 to the afternoon of Sunday, Feb 21 at theDoubleTree by Hilton (<http://doubletree3.hilton.com/en/hotels/ohio/doubletree-by-hilton-hotel-columbus-worthington-CMHWNDT/index.html>). This annual event brings together 800 students, teachers, and parents from across the state of Ohio to celebrate the study of Latin.  There are a variety of competitive activities at the convention:  academic tests, art contests, certamen, and creative performances (in both English and Latin).  In addition, the convention offers a number of social activities, including a dance, a talent show, a service activity (the Linus Project), and a toga banquet.

The convention is a wonderful opportunity for Summit students to earn recognition for their academic achievements, and the Summit Latin Program has established a strong tradition of excellence.  Summit students have consistently earned top awards in all academic competitions in all levels, and these achievements demonstrate that Summit possesses one of the top Latin programs in Ohio and the nation.

All Latin students (grades 7th - 12th) are eligible to attend the convention.  Last year, 31 students attended; the maximum number is 55.    Participation in the convention is a privilege, not a right.  All Summit students who go to convention are expected to contribute to the school’s excellence in academics & art.  To accomplish this, each student will pick some areas of interest in academics or art or performance and work to earn awards in those areas.  Mr. Dean and Mrs. Ashcraft have the rules for the various projects & contests in their rooms, and they can also be found on the ojcl website ([www.ojcl.org](http://www.ojcl.org)). Projects include:

* 9 academic tests – Latin vocabulary, English derivatives, Roman history, Roman culture, classical mythology, grammar, reading comprehension, Latin literature, and pentathlon (a combo of 5 tests) - ask your Latin teachers for study materials
* 35 artistic projects – there is something for everyone, from charcoal drawing to dolls to games to multimedia to creative writing to mosaic
* 5 creative arts - Latin recitation, dramatic interpretation, English oratory, sight Latin reading, costume, monologue
* 5 group projects - club banner, club scrapbook, skit, commercial, music video
* certamen - through a tryout to make the state team & practices for the state competition

THE AMOUNT OF ACADEMIC & ARTISTIC WORK WILL DETERMINE WHO WILL MAKE THE TRIP. STUDENTS MUST EARN THE PRIVILEGE OF CONVENTION THROUGH THE WORK OUTLINED ABOVE.

All activities are in the same hotel, and students will be supervised.  No student will be allowed to leave the hotel.

The cost of the convention is **$260**, and it will be due **Wed Jan 6**.  Make out checks to **'Summit Country Day'**.  This covers registration fees, a room for two nights (3-4 to a room), three meals (Sat. lunch, Sat. banquet, Sun. lunch), the Summit Latin Convention T-shirt, and awards & costs for the Latin program.  [The cost is more than in the past because of the collapse & closing of the Ramada hotel which we had used for decades.]

We will leave school at approximately 1:00 pm on Friday, Feb 19 and return to Summit at approximately 5:00 on Sunday, Feb 21.  The Summit will provide transportation for all the students.

Please do not hesitate to contact Kim Ashcraft (871-4700, ext. 343; ashcraft\_k@summitcds.org) or Larry Dean (871-4700, ext. 412; dean\_l@summitcds.org) you have any questions.

**[FYI - The 2016 National Convention is at Indiana University (Bloomington IN) next summer, Monday July 25 - Saturday July 30.]**

Sincerely,

Kim Ashcraft and Larry Dean

Summit Country Day Latin Teachers

*Oedipus Answering the Riddle of the Sphinx*

