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TOGA TALK

An Arizona Junior Classical League Publication



Trivium's JCL Chapter showing off their club t-shirt designed by Amanda M.

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Editor's Note

Salvete iterum amici! This is your AZJCL 1st Vice President Megan from Trivium. Can you believe we're already living in the year 2020, and we're still just as committed toward keeping the love of Classics alive in this new decade? That's dedication! 2020 is going to be a year full of changes: many of our JCLers who are seniors will be going off to college, others will experience their last State and NJCL conventions, and in November we'll have elected a president to lead America into these next four years. However, with all that being said, one thing that will undoubtedly remain constant is the classics community we've built for ourselves. So, here's to us! Before you begin reading, I'd like to thank a few people who made this edition of Toga Talk possible! Thank you to all of the AZJCL officers who wrote personal statements about JCL, to Magistra Palumbo for answering every time I've asked her for pictures or results from competitions, to every school that held an event this winter, and, as always, to you for reading this right now!

Submissions

Toga Talk is created to update you on what has happened in the past season in other Arizona chapters. In addition, Toga Talk is also meant for your enjoyment! So, if you would like to submit something to Toga Talk, we highly encourage it!

Submissions must be Classics-related and can be in a variety of different mediums and formats -- photos, artworks, poetry, prose, fiction, or memes! The possibilities are endless and we encourage you to explore your creativity! In addition, if your chapter has done something cool or notable, share it with us! Submit your own articles or a brief description of the activity. All submissions must be sent into azjclstvp@gmail.com



Social Media



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AZJCL.weebly.com

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Fall Forum 2019

Marching in Rome's Footsteps

Quid est Fall Forum? Fall Forum is that state event you attend at ASU that completely epitomizes your JCL experience. When you first arrive, you are given a flag with a letter that signifies which group you belong in and are immediately whisked off into one of three activities: candy mosaic making, gladiator sword fighting, or lecture listening. At the candy mosaic station, you are allotted an assortment of candy, some frosting, and a graham cracker to create an edible masterpiece relating to this year's convention theme: "Omnes...summa ope niti decet, ne vitiam silentio transeat." or "It benefits all to strive with greatest effort, lest they pass their lives in silence." If you are up for some physical activity, perhaps you would be interested in the gladiator battles, as you face off with your friends and valiantly strike each other with foam noodles until one of you is declared the victor and rewarded with jolly ranchers. However, if you've ever wondered how to properly sacrifice a cow or reach the underworld safely, then you'd probably want to check out the lecture station. From the fun activities to all the interesting lectures, Fall Forum has something for everybody and was nothing short of extraordinary.



Trivium poses with their AZICL banners



Our AZICLers hard at work making their candy mosaics



Magistra Palumbo's car in preparation of Fall Forum



AZICLers listen to a lecture about Roman cuisine



Students play a Classics-themed game

Certamen

1st Place-Basis Tucson North
2nd Place-Gilbert Classical Academy
3rd Place-Brophy Xavier Prep

Mosaics

1st Place-Tamsin from TPA
2nd Place-Taylor from TPA
3rd Place-Margaret from TPA

Posters

1st Place-Shravya from GCA
2nd Place-Mandy from GCA
3rd Place-Nadiyah from GCA
Honorable Mention-Brooke from GCA

Io Saturnalia!

1. Saturnalia Lecture

What do you know about Saturnalia? Maybe that it's the Roman equivalent of Christmas or that it was celebrated in the winter time after the harvest season, but after that, you may be a little more unsure. Thankfully, if you attended Brophy Xavier's Saturnalia event, they've got you covered! Before all of the holiday festivities began, a few Xavier students presented a lesson on common Saturnalia traditions to educate the students and their parents on the Roman holiday tradition of gambling and what the "pileus" or free-man's hat was.

2. Certamen Competition

Loyal to the theme of Roman Christmas, many of the questions during the certamen rounds were centered around Saturnalia and made mention of a few classic Christmas characters. Additionally, the students were split into mixed teams according to their level and played three rounds each to promote the holiday spirit of togetherness and allow them to interact with AZJCLers from other schools. At the end, the top scoring team from each level won holiday gift bags.

3. Poster Contest

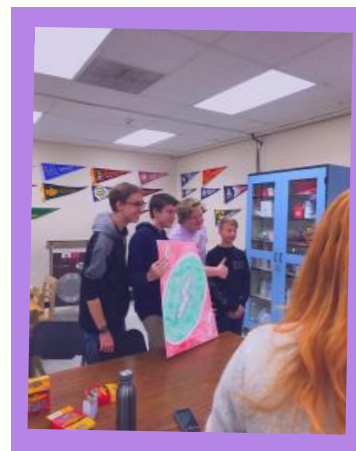
After all of the light-hearted certamen fun, the students participated in a poster-making contest that was judged off of each team's ability to illustrate an aspect of Saturnalia. To the right, two poster designs can be seen. The one on the left depicts Cronos as a grumpy Santa hunting for baby Zeus while the other gods and goddesses sit around in their father's stomach, and the one on the right is a giant Uno reverse card, highlighting Saturnalia's master-slave role reversal.



Students listen to a lecture on Saturnalia lead by a BXP student



Members of an advanced Certamen team share a laugh in between toss-up questions



Students present their Saturnalia posters

Results



First Place (Advanced)



First Place (Intermediate)

Paganalia

Certamen

To welcome all of AZJCL back after the winter break and help ring in the new year, Seton Catholic decided to host their annual Paganalia Certamen Competition! But what exactly is Paganalia, otherwise known as Sementivae? Well, it is one of the first Roman festivals of the year and it was held in the honor of Ceres (the goddess of agriculture) and Tellus (Mother Earth). By praying to these forces of nature, the Romans hoped to gain the good luck needed to sow a prosperous field. Thus, in our modern times, this event truly signifies how we as AZJCL wanted to start the new year off right by doing what we love most--celebrating the classics! Since this was the second formal tournament of the year, many of students were eager to show off their newly gained knowledge! Additionally, because the National Mythology Exam was coming up, there was a heavy emphasis on testing their Roman and Greek mythology trivia.

Results

| Novice | Intermediate | Advanced |
|---------------|---------------------|-----------------|
| 1st-Seton B | 1st-GCA A | 1st-BTN B |
| 2nd-GCA | 2nd-TPA | 2nd-TPA A |
| 3rd-BTN | 3rd-GCA B | 3rd-BTN A |

Top Scores!

| Novice | Intermediate | Advanced |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|
| 1st-Angel (Seton) | 1st-Max (GCA) | 1st-Lorenzo (BTN) |
| 2nd-Aleena (GCA) | 2nd (tie)-Allan and Owen (GCA) | 2nd-Andrew (BTN) |
| 3rd-Ethan (Candeo) | 3rd-Borislava (TPA) | 3rd-Ben (TPA) |



All of the attendees of Paganalia



Students wait for the Certamen round to start by watching videos.



Participants crowd excitedly around the room assignments board.

Lupercalia Celebration

There's a "U" in Lupercalia! During the third competitive certamen tournament of the year, Scottsdale Preparatory Academy used this tagline to invite any and all AZJCLers to their Lupercalia celebration. The event started out with a quick lecture on the history of Lupercalia and the activities the Romans would have done in preparation for the festival. Many historians speculate that our modern holiday Valentine's Day is actually an offshoot of Lupercalia, as they share a similar date of celebration. However, Roman "Valentine's Day" is very different from ours. For instance, the Romans' initial ritual sacrifice of male goats occurred in Lupercal cave to honor the she-wolf or "lupa" who nursed Romulus and Remus. Additionally, because Lupercalia also symbolized fertility, priests would run around and whip women who believed they would be blessed with children if they were hit. As such, some of the certamen rounds featured questions about the customs of Lupercalia, and SPA even created their own "Lupercal scansion cave." All in all, this event was definitely one of the most memorable yet!



Spectators crowd around the students competing in the final round of certamen



Participants in the Lupercalia event pose with their laurels



Members of the winning intermediate certamen team smile for a quick picture



Students eagerly listen to a lecture on Lupercalia led by a SPA student



Novice/Intermediate
1st-Tempe Prep
2nd-Candeo
3rd-Scottsdale Prep

Results

Advanced
1st-Candeo
2nd-Tempe Prep
3rd (tie)-Scottsdale & Cicero



AZJCL Officers

On Being an Officer

President (Adrian P)

The AZJCL has been a huge part of my life ever since middle school. However, the part of my life as a JCLer I've enjoyed the most is my time as a State Officer. During my three terms, I've experienced many memorable moments, but the one that most stands out is when last summer in Fargo, North Dakota, I helped lead the massive spirit battle before That's Entertainment. This was an event that I'd always loved ever since I first came to Nationals, and now I was leading it, passing that sense of awe and community onto young JCLer's who were attending Nationals for their first time. Giving to others the same sense of enjoyment that I experienced in the past brings me a sense of fulfillment. I encourage you all to run for office next year, so you can give others the same happiness that you cherished when you started JCL.



1st Vice President (Megan S)

Who would have guessed that you could compose a five-minute long oratory on how the nature of bees is akin to mob mentality? I certainly didn't, until I joined JCL! As such, I think that this experience perfectly epitomizes what I love the most about AZJCL--its ability to meld topics, or even people, together. With that being said, I would urge anyone who has even the slightest bit of interest in the Classics to join JCL and see how far it takes you and how many friendships you make. Afterwards, if you want to get more involved, you should consider running for state office, depending on what you enjoy doing! If you love designing and writing, then the 1st Vice President position is for you, and I would love to see what you do with Toga Talk!



2nd Vice President (Kyla R)

As AZJCL's 2nd VP what I am most looking forward to is nationals this year in Virginia. This will be my third time attending nationals and I am ecstatic that I will be leading spirit cheers this year. Arizona is a tiny but mighty state when it comes to our energy and enthusiasm, making us fun yet cutthroat competition. I have become so invested with the NJCL organization because of the environment that it creates for its students. It is not only welcoming to all but has also filled me with such joyful memories that will last a lifetime. I can only say that I am so grateful to be apart of the NJCL and the experiences that come with it.



How to Run for State Office

Requirements: All interested officers must have attended at least two past state events, an AZJCL state convention, and be able to attend the NJCL National Latin Convention. If you are interested in any one of these positions, please make sure you have talked to your magistri and "pre-filed" your candidacy by March 1st!

AZJCL Officers

On Being an Officer

Historian (Anika K)

After drawing inspiration from the unrivaled camaraderie at the NJCL Convention a few years ago, I wanted to contribute and give back to AZJCL, a family of classics-loving people who have been there for me all of junior high and high school. Ultimately, I became so invested in the NJCL organization because it was not only a place to learn Latin and the culture of Ancient Greeks and Romans, but also an opportunity for me to make new friends from all around the country and meet people with similar interests. As AZJCL historian, I love capturing special moments at all the state events and sharing them with both the NJCL community and non-NJCL students to showcase the bond and JCLove of classics nerds.



Communications Coordinator (Victoria H)

Joining JCL in 7th grade was a defining moment for me, but each and every year my love for JCL grows deeper and deeper. I joined because of the free homework pass, and I can't thank 12 year old me enough for doing that! While walking through the gates of my new school with some friends, I saw a big sign that read "Pluto Party" hanging across the pillars. I was confused and scared at first, but it worked out in the end. Even though my first AZJCL event wasn't magical and everything didn't just fall into place, I kept going and going. As such, my perseverance and continued interest in the classics made JCL such a memorable experience.

Webmaster (Andrew W)

As AZJCL webmaster, I had a really fun time messing around with the website. Officers really get an insider's look into how things operate, and helping out was an incredibly rewarding experience. As a bonus, you get to know about events before any of your friends (I don't have these, but you get the idea), and your fellow officers become great friends. You also get to talk to Ms. Palumbo, our awesome AZJCL chair, all the time, which is obviously schnazzy. So, I would encourage anybody interested in helping and leading JCL to become an officer. Seriously, it's a lot of fun.



Upcoming Events

March 28-State Convention at Candeo School

April 18-Trivium Preparatory Academy Certamen Event

July 23-National Convention at the University of Richmond