

CELEBRATING
THE GLORY
THAT IS
VIRGINIA LATIN

FORUM

VIRGINIA JUNIOR CLASSICAL LEAGUE HIEMS MMXV

**INSIDE THIS
ISSUE:**

- FULL NJCL COVERAGE
- VIRGINIA CERTAMEN VICTORY
- OUR NEW NATIONAL PRESIDENT
- NEW VJCL OFFICERS
- UPCOMING VJCL EVENTS
- PICTURES WITH FUNNY CAPTIONS!!!

NJCL 2015

Salvete Omnes! This summer, the 2015 National Junior Classical League Convention was held at Trinity University in San Antonio (as the nametags declared), Texas. One hundred and twenty-six Virginia Latin fanatics made the journey to the desolate wastes of the Lone Star state, braving ludicrous temperatures, central-city tourist traps, and an outbreak of weird flu-like symptoms. Despite these challenges, Virginia dominated. From a Certamen title, to winning in overall Spirit for the umpteenth time, we made our presence felt from the very beginning. Virginia delegates swarmed the campus, carrying off awards in every category. We can feel proud about the introduction to the joy of Nationals that we gave to all the first-time Convention attendees. We didn't just win everything in sight, we also supported each other. At every Certamen match and Olympika event, there were Virginians cheering on their comrades. Even once people started dropping like flies, we still managed to dominate the crowd at every event. Friendly Hand of JCL + Mountain of Virginia awards = a very successful Convention for all concerned.

NJCL overview	1
Dies Romani	2
Annales Futuri	2
Interviews	3-6
VA Awards	7-9
Photos from Convention	10-11
Officer Info	12-13





DIES ROMANI

- 2 September– Battle of Actium, 31 BC
- 17 September– “Accession Debate” in the Senate after the death of Augustus, 14 BC
- 18 September– Ascension of Tiberius, 14 BC
- 22 September– Death of Virgil, 19 BC
- 28 September– Assassination of Pompey, 48 BC
- 10 October– Death of Germanicus, 19 AD
- 13 October– Death of Claudius, 54 AD
- 15 October– Birth of Virgil, 70 BC
- 19 October– Battle of Zama, 202 BC
- 16 November– Birth of Tiberius, 42 BC
- 27 November– Formation of the Second Triumvirate, 43 BC
- 5 December– Execution of the Catilinarian Conspirators, 63 BC
- 19 December– Julius Caesar sails from Lilybaeum, 47 BC
- 1 January– Pompey returns to Rome after his conquests in Asia, 61 BC, the messenger carrying Julius Caesar’s last message to the Senate before the Civil War arrives, 49 BC
- 20 January– Murder of Clodius, 52 BC

ANNALES FUTURI

- 24 October– VJCL KICKOFF Certamen at Saint Stephens & Saint Agnes School, Alexandria
- 7 November– Classical Cottage School Certamen at the Powhatan School in Boyce
- 7 November– Seneca Ridge Middle School Certamen (Middle Schoolers ONLY), Sterling
- 22 & 23 November– Virginia Junior Classical League Convention at the Richmond Convention Center
- 5 December– BASIS DC Certamen
- 12 December– Riverbend High School Certamen, Fredericksburg
- 9 January– Flint Hill School Certamen, Oakton
- 27 February– Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology Certamen, Alexandria
- 23 April– VJCL State Finals Certamen at Woodson High School, Fairfax



INTERVIEW with SIMON VAN DER WEIDE

At this Convention, Virginia Novice Certamen won our 37th overall national championship. Playing on this team were Simon Van Der Weide, Kyle Nielsen, Calvin Lucido, and Tiam AzabDafta. This was our first win since 2010, making it that much more meaningful for all the diehard Certamen players (and fans) who watched it happen. The Novice Captain, Simon Van Der Weide of Flint Hill, speaks about what made his Certamen adventure so great.

“Becoming a Novice certamen champion was a unique experience for me because I hadn’t ever experienced anything that adrenaline-rushing or stress-inducing in the past. To me, it was the obvious second highlight of my entire week at NJCL Convention this summer. My primary highlight of convention this summer was spending time with Magistra Henricks, Calvin (Crispans), Kyle (Henricks Jr.), and Tiam (T-now,already). I built friendships with Kyle, the one person I didn’t know enough on my team, and discovered his affinity for both history and cross country. Every day leading up to convention was another day of practice against Advanced Latin students from my school. They won often, but it made us think and respond faster. Special shoutout to Mitch Arnold who taught me a whole bunch of obscure grammar things that helped me on the final question.

Our team did a whole bunch of things to prepare: secret candy practices in the Fiesta Room, estimating how much people would be late to meetings, and finding random places to study during free time. However, one of the most important things that could’ve happened on Friday, July 31st was that Kyle Nielsen and I went for a run. That run calmed us both down, and prepared us for the grueling match that was yet to come. Everything that happened from that to the middle of the round when the moderator asked a random grammar question that I got was a blur.

All teams were within 15 points at the last question; that’s when Calvin tapped me and told me that it was a grammar question. That meant it all came down to me for our team to answer the last one and win the trophy for Virginia. As you know now, we did it. I didn’t do it, our team did it. We won.”



INTERVIEW with WYATT JOYNER

The following is a message from our Dominus et Deus, Wyatt Joyner. He is currently the Grand Master of the Knights Templar, Capo di Tutti Capi, Lord of the Seven Kingdoms, et cetera, et cetera. Oh, and he's also the VJCL President.

“Greetings, my subjects!

'Tis I, your Supreme Grand Kaiser, His Honorable Majestic Dictator, 'President', Wyatt Joyner! In case you've not heard, the 62nd NJCL convention was held at Trinity University, San Antonio (or, 'San Antonio', as our name-cards said) this past Summer. Approximately 1,600 delegates from all over the country rallied together to celebrate the classics, JCLove and friendship, mediocre dancing, and especially spirit. Of course, out of all the screaming, yet sleep-deprived, hooligans that we are at the national convention, Virginia shone the brightest.

Yes, dearest subjects, 1st place in overall spirit, 1st place in novice level certamen, a 1st place promotional video which you should totally go watch because we worked really hard to make it and I'm going to take this opportunity for a shameless plug >>> “ ‘A Classic Standoff ‘ NJCL 2015 Promotional Video– Classical Cottage School’ on YouTube<<<, domination in many of the academic, creative, and graphic contests, and, last, but not least, our very own Brier Clough (former VJCL president) acquired the office of NJCL Grand Kais– uh... President! In short, Virginia venit, Virginia vidit, Virginia vicit! And as my own term of office comes to a close, I would only like to say that your success was my success, and I am more than ecstatic with Virginia's achievement. And with special gratitude to the magnanimous and incredibly hard-working chaperones, sponsors, and co-chairs, I bid you adieu.

Ut valeatis, mei subiecti, et spero vos omnes conventu optimo perfructuros esse!”

-Wyatt Joyner, Supreme Grand Kaiser, His Honorable Majestic Dictator, 'President'



INTERVIEW with BRIER CLOUGH

This is a special message from Brier Clough, former VJCL President, current NJCL President, and the one entity in the universe with more power than Wyatt.

“Dear VJCLers (old and new),

The purpose of the following essay is to inspire you all to look at the most unexpected opportunities as new ways to create yourself. This is my story of finding what I love, and I hope the JCL will offer everyone of you the same sort of life changing opportunities. A big thank you to the entire VJCL for being the first to give me a chance to look at the world in a different way.

With my fingers twisted with my best friend's who was sitting beside me in a whispering wave of students, I hung my head and felt my rapid pulse change with every slow, shaking breath. In that moment the whispering and echoing from the microphone surrounding me became dull and drawn out. In that moment I focused on how I was squeezing my friend's hand so hard that my hand became clammy and white with red speckles. In that moment I focused on the warm, tingly feeling in my lower back that I only get when I am nervous or embarrassed. And somehow in that moment, the only thing on my mind was the incessant replaying of what I could only imagine the words sounding like: "And your 2015-2016 National Junior Classical League President will be..."

In that moment, the memory of how my life as a JCLer began flickered in my mind like an old film reel. As a puny, awkward seventh grader I began to study the (not so) dead language of Latin. I, being an unaware middle schooler, had not the slightest inkling that the class I considered a nuisance requirement, would be one of the most important opportunities for me. I recalled being introduced to a convention for Latin students, the Virginia Junior Classical League Convention. It was a weekend of tests, competitions, and lectures for over 2,000 students. Some of us were intimidated by the size of the convention (ten times the size of our school), some thought it would be boring, but, not knowing what really to expect, I rode into the uncertainty of this mysterious congregation of students with an open mind. Walking into the first assembly, surrounded by thousands of students, I surprisingly only noticed the few on stage at the front of the room. These well-spoken high schoolers, who served as the State Board, were leading the assembly.

That convention flew by rapidly, but the memory of being so impressed by the student officers resonated within my mind. As a seventh grader who seemed caught up in the middle school drama and in an identity crisis, I found my place and fell in love with the JCL. It was the single most kind hearted group of people I had ever had the pleasure to meet and still is.



INTERVIEW with BRIER CLOUGH

I was so in love that at my third state convention, I decided to run for VJCL Second VP, one of the largest leadership roles on the Board. Being the youngest officer on the board as a freshman keeping up with the senior officers, I knew then that I couldn't let the end of my term be the end of my influence in the JCL community. I knew then that I was going to seek National Office. I owe my ability of being able to face this role with confidence to my Latin teacher and the entirety of the JCL. Looking back at it now, it seems so extraordinary for me to have become so confident in my leadership ability from being a meek and uncomfortable middle schooler who started this JCL journey. I won the election and developed a level of comfort in speaking in front of thousands that I never would have had, and followed that position with the office of VJCL President. As president, I scheduled and ran a very successful state convention, and spoke at National Convention as an introductory speaker. And now I was sitting at my fifth national convention, waiting for the life changing NJCL Presidential election results. "...Brier Clough!"

I rose from my seat like I had been drowning in thought, gasping for a breath to fill my lungs. I felt the tingling and the clamminess concentrate inside my chest then drain out instantly. Now, instead of the memories that filled my mind while waiting, my plans and goals for the following year as President flooded in."

Ex Animo,
Brier Clough
NJCL President



Brier and Mr. Alvin Duncan, the first-ever NJCL President. For the record, this is incredibly cool.

VJCL AWARDS AT NJCL CONVENTION

At the 2015 NJCL Convention, Virginia won a truly awe-inspiring number of awards. Because of the sheer space that this list takes up, only first through third place awards are listed here. This is a good problem to have.

STATE AWARDS

Novice Level Certamen: 1st
Intermediate Level Certamen: 6th
Advanced Level Certamen: 6th
Traditional Scrapbook: 2nd
T-Shirt: Most Creative: 5th
Non-Convention State Chapter Growth: 1st
State Publications: 6th
Olympika Ludi Basketball: 1st
Ludi Soccer: 3rd
Spirit - Large State: 1st

INDIVIDUAL SCHOOL AWARDS

Classical Cottage School:
First: Promotional Video

Flint Hill School:

First: Traditional Scrapbook
Sixth: Local Publications

Riverbend High School

First: Most Original Publicity
Third: Overall Publicity
Sixth: Traditional Scrapbook

Thomas Jefferson HS for Science & Technology

Second: Local Publications, Traditional Scrapbook

INDIVIDUAL STUDENT AWARDS

Mitchell Arnold – Latin III

Flint Hill School
Third place: Adv. Latin Grammar

Tiam AzabDafta – Latin I, grade 8

Flint Hill School
First places: Novice Certamen, Constructed Maps

Grace Bailey – Latin IV, grade 12

Herndon HS
First place: Small Models

Orchi Banerjee – Latin V, grade 12

TJHSST
First place: Latin Oratory, Sight Latin Poetry

Bradford Case – Latin IV, grade 11

TJHSST
First place: Dramatic Interpretation Poetry
Second Place: Classical Art
Third places: Reading Comprehension Poetry
Sight Latin Poetry

Lauren Cheetham – Latin III, grade 10

Wakefield Country Day School
First places: Black Ink, Drawn Maps

Lena Cohen – Latin III, grade 10

Flint Hill School
Second place: Essay

Benjamin Cotter – Latin II, grade 8

Wakefield Country Day
Second Place: Shot Put

Connor Cuevo = Latin II, grade 9

Flint Hill School
First places: 100-yd Backstroke, 100-yd Freestyle, 200-yd Medley
Third places: 100-yd Freestyle, 50-yd Backstroke, 50-yd Breaststroke

Julianne Cuevo = Latin ½

Flint Hill School
Second place: Mottoes test

Stephanie Do – Latin II, grade 10

TJHSST
First Places: Computer Photo, 50-yd Breaststroke
Third Places: 200-yd Freestyle, 200-yd Medley, 50-yd Freestyle

Sophia Dort – Latin II

Oakcrest School
Third place: Academic Heptathlon

Lucas DuMez – Latin III, grade 10

Wakefield Country Day
First places: Chalk/Pastel, Drawn Charts, Sculpture, 100-yd Freestyle, 200-yd Freestyle, 200-yd Medley, 50-yd Backstroke, 50-yd Butterfly, 50-yd Freestyle, 50-yd Breaststroke
Second places: Acrylic/Oil, Dolls, 100-yd Backstroke, Marathon; Overall Olympika
Third places: Black Pencil, Colored Ink, Mixed Media; Overall Sweepstakes

Anthony Elar III – Latin II, grade 9

Wakefield Country Day
Second Place: Large Models

VJCL AWARDS AT NJCL CONVENTION

Thomas Freireich – Latin ½, grade 7

Flint Hill School

First: 50-yd Breaststroke

Third: Ancient Geography

Priya Gill – Latin V

Flint Hill School

First places: Latin Vocabulary (top score overall), Latin Derivatives, Adv. Latin Grammar

Third: Reading Comprehension Prose

Douglas Griffin – Latin II, grade 9

Wakefield Country Day

First places: Black Ink, Colored Ink

Second places: Greeting Cards, Constructed Maps

Third places: Ancient Geography, Roman History, Illustrated Quotes, Posters

Arjun Guidroz – Latin III

TJHSST

First Place: Couples Costume

Connor Hay – Latin ½, Grade 7

Flint Hill School

Second place: 50-yd Backstroke

Ryan Haynie – Latin III, grade 11

TJHSST

Third: Constructed Maps

Wyatt Joyner – Latin V, grade 11,

Classical Cottage School

First places: Dramatic Interp. Prose Boys, Latin Oratory, Cartoons, Dolls, Illustrated Quotes, Maps: Constructed, Mosaics, Posters, Small Models
OVERALL Lillie B. Hamilton Award
Overall Sweepstakes

Second places: Greek Derivatives, Reading Comprehension: Prose, Black Ink, Charts: Constructed, Computer Photo; Overall Graphic Arts

Third places: Latin Vocabulary,

Games, Modern Myth – Upper Division;
Overall Creative Arts

Ryan Klopp – Latin III, grade 9

Classical Cottage School

First places: Essay, Modern Myth-Upper Division, Traditional Photo,

Second place: Mosaics

Third places: Pottery, English Oratory; Overall Creative Arts

Calvin Lucido – Latin ½

Flint Hill School

First place: Certamen

Second places: Latin Grammar, Mottoes

Third places: Academic Heptathlon, Reading Comprehension

Jack Magner – Latin I, grade 8

Flint Hill School

Second: 100-meter Track

Gwynn Major – Latin ½, grade 7

Wakefield Country Day

Third: Mottoes

Grace McIntire – Latin V, grade 12

Riverbend HS

Second: Dramatic Interpretation

Kyle Nielson – Latin I

Herndon HS

First place: Certamen

Nile Patel – Latin II, grade 9

Wakefield Country Day

Third: Jewelry

Zoe Porterfield – Latin II, grade 9

Classical Cottage School

First places: Sight Latin Reading, Computer Photo,

Jocelyn Robertson – Latin II, grade 7

Classical Cottage School

First places: Dramatic Interp, Acrylic/Oil, Illustrated Quotes, Pottery

Second places: English Oratory, Essay, Sight Latin Reading, Cartoons, Chalk/Pastel, Dolls, Small Models; Overall Creative Arts

Third places: Costume, Charcoal, Colored Pencil

Jackson Romine – Latin II, grade 9

Wakefield Country Day

Third: Shot Put

Jillian Schiele – Latin IV, grade 11

T.C. Williams HS

First place: English Oratory

Alessandra Scholle – Latin IV

TJHSST

Second Place: Sight Latin Poetry

Third Place: Dramatic Interpretation Poetry

Anna Schuster – Latin I, grade 8

Wakefield Country Day

First Place: Impromptu Art

Third: Colored Ink

Charlie Shen – Latin V

Herndon HS

First Places: Reading Comprehension Prose, 100-yd Backstroke

Second places: Latin Grammar, 200-yd Freestyle, 200-yd Medley, 50-yd Backstroke, 50-yd Freestyle

Third Places: Reading Comprehension Poetry, 50-yd Butterfly

Mitchell Solomon – Latin II, grade 9

Classical Cottage School

First: Mosaics

VJCL AWARDS AT NJCL CONVENTION

Merritt Schwartz – Latin III

Flint Hill School

First place: Latin Grammar

Second places: Academic Heptathlon,
Latin Derivatives, Latin Vocabulary,
Reading Comprehension Poetry

Third places: Reading Comprehension
Prose, Roman History

Will Siegmund – Latin V

St. Stephens & St. Agnes School

First places: Latin Literature, Roman
History

Christophe Simpson – Latin V

Flint Hill School

Second place: Mottoes

Tashi Treadway – Latin V, grade 12

John Handley HS

First places: Couples Costume, Illus-
trated Quotes, Pottery

Simon Van Der Weide – Latin ½

Flint Hill School

First places: Ancient Geography, Latin
Grammar, Mythology, Certamen

Second places: Academic Heptathlon,
Reading Comprehension, Roman Life

Gavin White – Latin II, grade 9

Classical Cottage School

Third places: Mosaics, Textiles



Wyatt Joyner and Jocelyn Robertson, both of Classical Cottage School, pose with their First and Fourth Place (respectively) Lillie B. Hamilton Awards.



The VJCL Spirit Procession marches through the Texas heat. In other news, Tartarus opened a San Antonio branch that week.



The elusive Schearersaurus Regina. If cornered by it, your only defense is to go for the name tag, as the creature's only fear is being in violation of Convention rules. Notably, it has no problem with devouring students.



Our National Champion Novice Certamen team. There used to be a fifth one, but he was killed in an accident involving a bus, several T-Shirts, and a poorly timed hyperbuzz.



Required supplies for a competitive Nationals campaign: chalk, sidewalk, an army of vandals. Fortunately for Brier, we were way better at defacing property than the other guy's minions.



Some fool let these two get near the microphone. However, the rest of Virginia was able to distract the onrushing guards by repeatedly shouting "LATIN" and other curses.



We used these to pelt passers-by until they agreed to vote for Brier. Or came after us, in which case we ran away.



The fruits of a Spirit victory. Remember VJCLers, all you need to do to give your 2nd VP's life meaning is win her a giant inflatable cactus.



Not just for Spirit anymore. Turns out, these signs are very effective when used to bludgeon your Certamen opponents over the head and leave them tied up in a closet. Not that I would know.



This is what winning at Nationals feels like. For most of us, our faces returned to their normal "sullen teenager" expressions after a few weeks, but this was a severe case.



No one has any idea what we're doing, but we're doing it loudly and with great skill. We think.

NEW VJCL OFFICERS

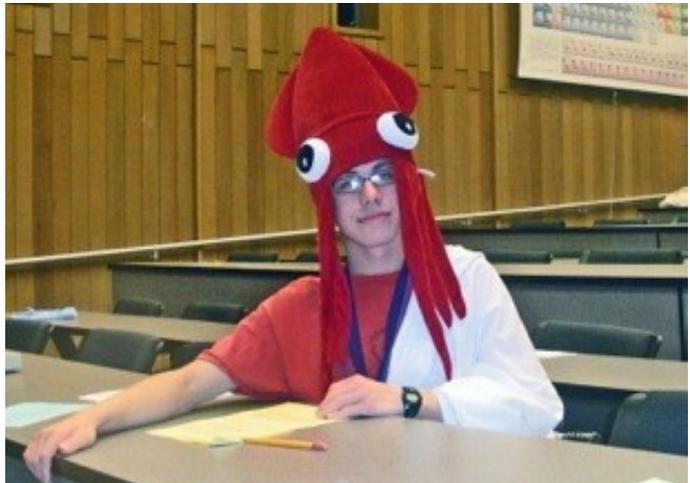
At Convention this year, we elected two new state officers. Our new historian is Megan Milner of Flint Hill, and our new editor is Ryan Klopp of Classical Cottage School. I am proud to report that we have quickly learned to execute our many duties, some of which include sitting quietly during officer meetings and cheering loudly after any statement made by Wyatt.



Your Historian, just before being eaten by those benign-looking flowers.

Salvete omnes! I am Ryan Klopp, your new Editor. I'm currently a tenth grader taking Latin IV at Classical Cottage School. I love everything the JCL has to offer, but especially Certamen and Conventions. I've been to three National Conventions, with my first being at UNLV in Las Vegas, and three state Conventions. At each of the NJCL Conventions I've attended, I've been the Mythologist for the state Certamen team on my level, making the finals twice. When I'm not doing something related to the JCL, I can be found reading, writing, camping, and playing military simulation board games. I wanted to be your VJCL Editor because I wanted a chance to help give back to the organization that I've spent so much time enjoying. I love writing, so Editor was a natural fit for me. I can't wait to spend the year working with all of you awesome VJCLers!

Salve! My name is Megan Milner. I'm currently a senior at Flint Hill School, and I'm so excited to be your VJCL Historian this year! I started taking Latin in sixth grade and have worked my way up to Collegiate Seminar. Since the beginning of my career in the Classics, I've been to five state and three national conventions. I've long been fascinated by the Latin language. In fact, I can be found doing the entire year's Latin homework in the first week of school. When I'm not translating the works of ancient Roman authors and poets, I can be found drinking caffeine, playing softball, and taking pictures of everything in sight. It's important to keep memories of the VJCL alive through photographs. Without them, we wouldn't be able to see the great things that we, the Virginia delegation, have accomplished; the progress we've made; and the fun times we've had. While I'm sad that this is my last year as a JCLer, I know it's only just begun. I can't wait to spend it promoting the Classics and making new memories with all of you!



I would love to explain the circumstances which led to this photo, but the VJCL's lawyers won't let me.

OFFICER CONTACT INFO

If you wish to beg some boon from one of your VJCL overlords, we recommend doing the following. First, gain our attention. The exact method you use to do this is up to you. However, as a general rule, it should be noticeable from the Moon. Anything less, and we will roll over and go back to sleep. Then, wave flaming objects over your head while singing the JCL Song backwards, so as to make it clear who exactly is trying to contact us. If this fails to summon your desired officer, repeat until it does.

Alternatively, you could just shoot off an email to one of these addresses:

- **President: Wyatt Joyner, Classical Cottage School**— [president \[at\] virginiajcl.org](mailto:president@virginiajcl.org)
- **1st Vice President: Alex Smith, John Champe High School**— [1stvp \[at\] virginiajcl.org](mailto:1stvp@virginiajcl.org)
- **2nd Vice President: Trini Ketchkian, Flint Hill School**— [2ndvp \[at\] virginiajcl.org](mailto:2ndvp@virginiajcl.org)
- **Secretary: Ann Bailey, Saint Stephen's and Saint Agnes School**— [secretary \[at\] virginiajcl.org](mailto:secretary@virginiajcl.org)
- **Parliamentarian: Andrew Zazzera, Princess Anne High School**— [parliamentarian \[at\] virginiajcl.org](mailto:parliamentarian@virginiajcl.org)
- **Editor: Ryan Klopp, Classical Cottage School**— [editor \[at\] virginiajcl.org](mailto:editor@virginiajcl.org)
- **Historian: Megan Milner, Flint Hill School**— [historian \[at\] virginiajcl.org](mailto:historian@virginiajcl.org)

If your need is dire, a mere state officer may prove unable to help you. In this case, we advise contacting a VJCL Co-Chair. The ritual for summoning one of these fell beasts has not been passed down through the ages, so you'll have to use email.

- **VJCL Convention and Finances: Debbie Brooks**— [brooks \[at\] virginiajcl.org](mailto:brooks@virginiajcl.org)
- **Officer Liaison: Laurie Covington**— [covington \[at\] virginiajcl.org](mailto:covington@virginiajcl.org)
- **VJCL Tests and Certamen: Emily Lewis**— [lewis \[at\] virginiajcl.org](mailto:lewis@virginiajcl.org)
- **VJCL Tests and Certamen: Ken Andino**— [andino \[at\] virginiajcl.org](mailto:andino@virginiajcl.org)
- **Computer Matters: Nikki Carroll**— [carroll \[at\] virginiajcl.org](mailto:carroll@virginiajcl.org)

