

Forum



FALL EDITION

VJCL

ISSUE MMXXV

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Welcome Back (and Goodbye!)



As I write the final edition of the VJCL Forum, I can't help but take a moment to express my overwhelming gratitude. My time as editor with the VJCL has brought me an incredible journey which I will be forever thankful to have shared. It feels like it was only yesterday when I was elected at the last convention, and as our next convention steadily approaches, I look back on the multitude of memories I've gotten to make with everyone here. I've gotten to share so many fond and endearing experiences with countless VJCL-ers and my other officers along the way, and it's been the enthusiasm and support of every Virginia Latin student with VJCL that has made my job here immensely rewarding.



- Gratias tibi ago, Charles Rogers

Upcoming Dates

VJCL Convention

11/23 - 11/24/2025

Mark your calendars! November will arrive sooner than you expect! State convention this year will take place (as it does every year) at the Richmond Convention center. You can see more information by visiting the VJCL website

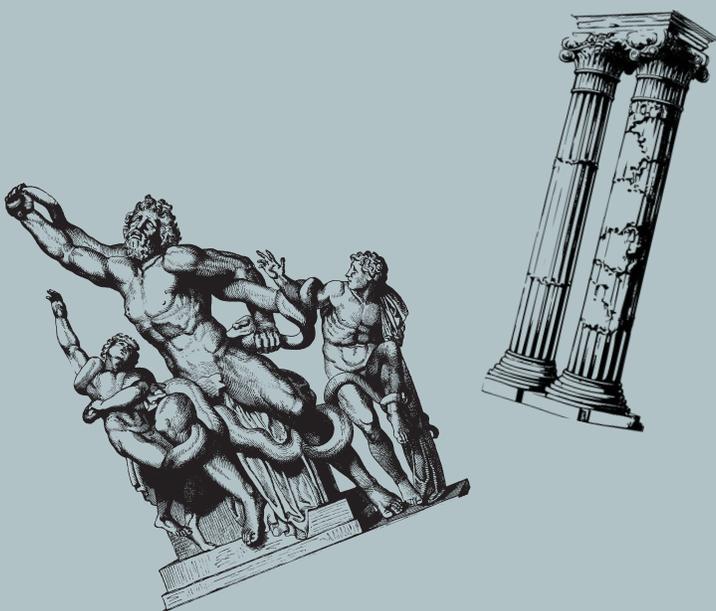


We hope to see you there!

Announcements

VJCL Convention info is out!

Yep, the first few pages of this newsletter and I've already brought up Convention for the millionth time, but trust me, it's for a good reason! If you haven't gotten the message yet, get ready for one of the most exciting times of your life! The officers hope to see you join us and the rest of your fellow Virginia Latin students for an awesome Latin-packed weekend.



Be on the
lookout for
convention
contest info

OFFICER UPDATES

President - Mackenzie

These past few months have been jam-packed but exciting, and I'm so excited to share these updates with everyone! After the Spring Council meeting, I jumped right into helping Kaitlyn plan spirit, meeting with the officers and co-chairs multiple times to plan props, cheers, and t-shirt designs that I sketched. I also attended two weeks of castra before Convention and helped Kaitlyn lead spirit castra, where we finalized cheers and worked on props. At Convention, along with playing Certamen and participating in various contests, I led nightly fellowships with the other officers—it was great seeing all the Virginia enthusiasm and spirit! I'm proud to announce that Virginia won many awards this year, and I want to congratulate all of the officers for wins in spirit, publicity, scrapbook, and more! Recently, I've been working on a student-facing VJCL Convention guide that is more approachable than the massive Convention packet and will hopefully help newer convention-goers.

1st Vice president - Clara

In the past few months, I've stayed pretty busy. Before National Convention, I planned spirit chants, props, and t-shirt designs. I worked with my fellow officers to finalize details, and attended spirit castra where I helped create props and our VJCL letters.

At convention, I led VA to 3rd overall in Spirit for Extra Large delegations. I also made and submitted our state T-shirt which placed 4th place Most Creative, 1st place Best Visual, and 3rd place Overall. Throughout convention, I taught cheers, made signs, and attended the national service project, and assisted my fellow officers in their various tasks throughout convention. Since Nats, I have shifted to planning for state convention by creating rubrics and information for roll call, the t-shirt contest, and spirit.

2nd Vice president - Kaitlyn

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Thank you

Secretary - Cecil

I hope everyone had a relaxing summer. Over the break, I attended the National Convention, where I helped lead fellowships, served alongside Arleigh as the second voting delegate, and took notes on the candidates while attending all of their designated gatherings. I also completed the Fellowship minutes, which are now ready to be archived. In addition, I've been keeping up with the VJCL Instagram and have a few ideas for promoting it as we prepare for Convention. Looking ahead, I'd like to begin working on revising and reformatting the podium book. At the conclusion of this meeting, I will share the board meeting minutes with my fellow officers and co-chairs, as well as post them on social media. I'll also be updating the Google Classroom by replacing the old drive attachment with a new working folder I've compiled, which includes both this year's and past minutes. I'm really excited for Convention, and if anyone has questions or if there's any way I can help, please feel free to reach out!

Gratias vobis ago !

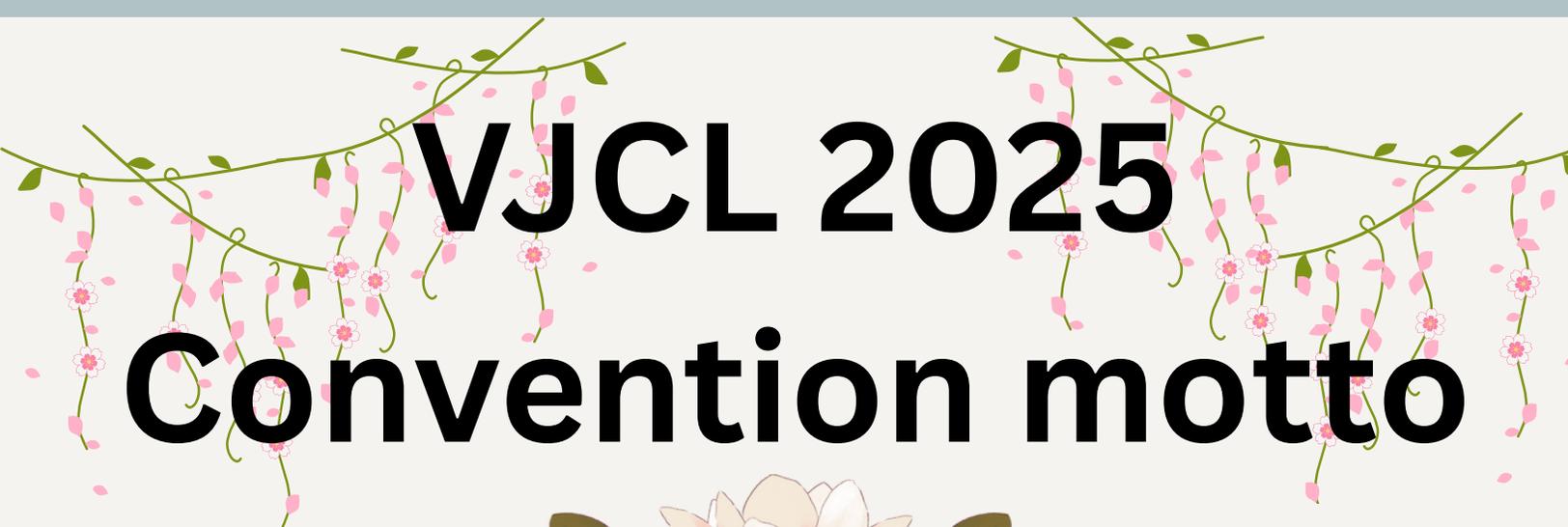
Arleigh - Parliamentarian

It's been an eventful few months, so let's start with the success of the 2025 NJCL Convention. As a parliamentarian, I can honestly say I have very few notes on how Virginia carried themselves during the officer election cycle this year. Virginia continues to stand out as one of the few states that consistently does their research and pays close attention to detail. But most importantly, I also want to thank everyone who contributed, whether by speaking during voting fellowship or attending any election-related events. You all helped me fulfill a dream I've had since I first ran for this role, and I'm so grateful. But the clock keeps spinning, and it's time to look ahead! This year, instead of focusing on being a voting delegate, I get the chance to pour all my energy into running the best elections possible...the VJCL Elections! My priority this fall will be making sure everyone understands the election process and feels prepared for everything that can (and will) happen during the cycle. Some things I will elaborate on later in this meeting, I will have in place to ensure complete transparency with all soon-to-be delegates.

Historian - Isadora

Salvete Omnes! I'm so excited to see you all after this summer. My time as historian this year has been so nice and a wonderful way to exercise creativity and responsibility, so thank you all for the support you've given. I'm sorry I couldn't attend National Convention, but I'm so glad to hear my scrapbook won second overall. I loved creating it and hearing what all of you have learned from your time with Latin. I'm looking forward to State Convention, as it will be an opportunity to take pictures for the next historian (and also for Instagram!).

I'll be working this fall to organize photos I've collected from National Convention into a Google Drive so that they will have easy access for their scrapbook making. Additionally, I've created the rubric for the Digital Scrapbook in preparation for convention. Finally, I recently attended a national historian meeting over zoom, and connected with the current NJCL historian. I look forward to submitting to the photo of the month competitions that she will be running this fall. Thanks so much!



VJCL 2025 Convention motto



**concordia parvae res
crescunt. "With harmony,
small things grow." - Sallust,
Bellum Iugurthinium**

Virginia State Convention Information:

WHOOOP WHOOOP! I hope you're as excited as I am about upcoming convention. Make sure you have the needed discussions with your club sponsor about being registered, choosing your tests, and participating in contests. We hope to see you there!

Questions?

Visit the "State Convention" section of the VJCL website for tons of information about convention experience and detailed explanations of tests, contests and so much more!

Thinking about running for office...?

VJCL needs you!

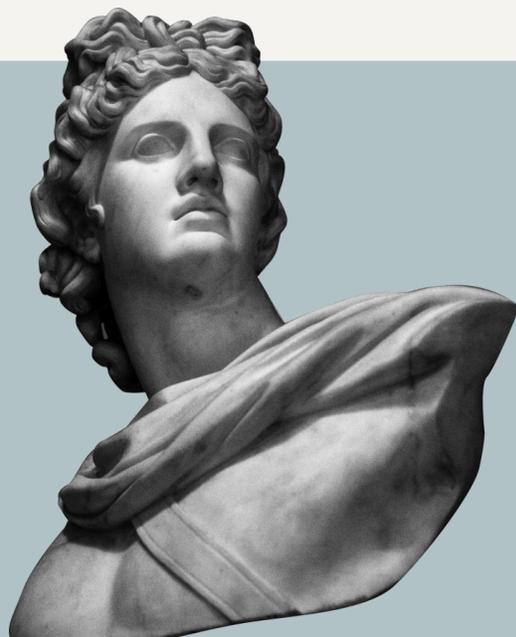
If you happen to be attending the convention, we strongly encourage you to run for VJCL office! this organization can only continue with student participation and leaders who are interested in the classics, and want this organization to prosper and grow.

Although it may seem like a terrifying experience, running for office is an extremely fulfilling and rewarding experience that you won't regret! If interested, don't hesitate to talk to your sponsor and reach out to current

VJCL parliamentarian Arleigh Womack:

Parliamentarian@virginiajcl.org

On a more personal note, running for VJCL office was one of the most fulfilling things I've ever done!



Bored at Convention?

Want to meet new people?

Convention Bingo

Find somebody who has...

has a favorite latin word	Is allergic to peanuts	Can name 3 emperors of Rome
Who took AP Chemistry	Has lived in another country	Doesn't like ice cream
Has a favorite Roman God	Owens both a dog and a cat	Name their favorite Roman myth

VIRGINIA AT NATIONAL CONVENTION:

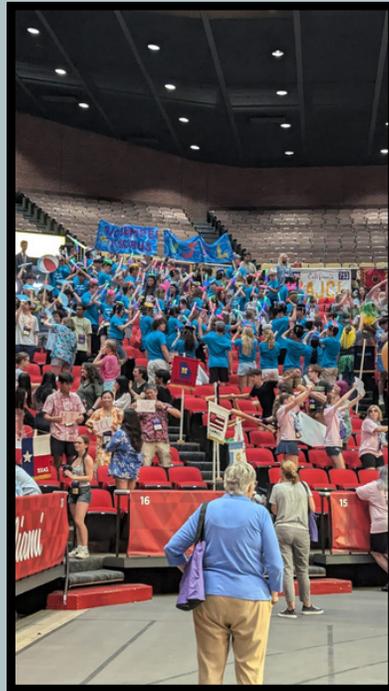
By Mackenzie Sanford

VJCL had an amazing 2025 NJCL convention! With over seventy delegates, we were one of the largest and strongest state delegations, and we definitely represented ourselves well! This was, of course, only possible with the help of our amazing co-chairs, sponsors, and all of you.

- Virginia placed third in spirit! This year was the first time in a while that we were an extra-large delegation competing against powerhouses like Texas and Wisconsin, but we managed to hold our own (shoutout to Kaitlyn, our amazing Second Vice President!) Our fish-themed shirts and accessories were noticed by many and left a lasting impression.

- Virginia showed up and SHOWED OUT academically. Our advanced Certamen team made it all the way to finals, placing second, and all of our teams made it to semifinals! THREE out of the top five Decathlon winners were from Virginia, and we had multiple delegates win best in show on tests and place in the top ten for overall academics. We also did well in graphic arts, creative arts, and Olympika. Multiple Virginia delegates placed in the top ten for overall sweepstakes, and one delegate won the Lillie B. Hamilton award!
- Our very own Reese Lay was elected as NJCL president! She also successfully completed her term as Communications Coordinator. Congratulations Reese, we are all incredibly proud of you!

Photo Recap



Recent Roman Discoveries



Shell Mosaic Banquet Hall in Rome



Near Palatine Hill, archaeologists have recently discovered a 2,300-year-old banquet hall adorned with a beautiful shell mosaic! Believed to have belonged to a senatorial family during the late Republic, the mosaic features Egyptian blue pigment, glass, and marble fragments arranged in the “rustico” style, popularized during the late republic!

Colossal Marble Head at Trajan's Forum



A massive marble head of a Roman man with flowing hair and a somber expression was discovered in Rome's Trajan's Forum, and is what Archeologist is part of a monumental colonnade entrance! -Perhaps a statue of your head will be discovered in 2000 years?



Settlement in Alès, France



An expansive Roman settlement dating from the 2nd century CE was uncovered in southern France, revealing homes, roads, and artifacts that span centuries of Roman culture and influence!

Gladiator Tomb in Liternum, Italy



In a small rural village near Naples, a 2,000-year-old necropolis revealed an astonishingly untouched tomb believed to belong to a Roman gladiator. The site includes inscriptions and grave goods that hint at the Gladiators status and nobility!

Sources:

<https://www.livescience.com/archaeology/romans/2300-year-old-shell-mosaic-discovered-in-luxurious-home-in-rome>

<https://www.londonxlondon.com/new-roman-ruins-london/>

<https://imperiumromanum.pl/en/discoveries/>

<https://www.foxnews.com/travel/ancient-tomb-tied-roman-gladiator-discovered-archaeologists>



**Thank you all for keeping updated
within the VJCL, and we hope to
see y'all at our state convention
coming up!**

Gratias tibi ago