TORCH

MIDNIGHT: TSJCL STATE CONVENTION 2022

TABLE OF CONTENTS









Letter from the Editor



Area Updates





Election Info



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Meet your Candidates!



Activities

Salvete, omnes!



Welcome to the 2022 TSJCL Convention! Whether you're reading from your homeroom, lunch table, or academic testing hallway, I hope you've settled in. In case you haven't noticed, it's the first in-person convention---in two years!

I remember attending my first TSJCL convention as a wide-eyed freshman. It was my first and only in-person State, and I'm incredibly excited for everyone to return. Trying to find your way through the labyrinth of school hallways or listening to podcasts on the long car rides to the venue has never felt the same.

JCLers, new and old: I know State this year will have a sort of magic that unfortunately can't be replicated online. This edition of the Torch is a combined Winter and Midnight edition (a chimera, you might say?). Inside, you'll find games, election information, Q&As with the candidates, state updates, and more.

No matter if you're the person who stayed up all night working on your magnum opus of an art submission, the sponsor who braved late nights to get your students here, or one of three people who actually read this, thank you for being part of this community. I hope your convention has gotten off to a great start.

> Your Editor, Emily Ding





WINTER BOARD 1/8/22 MEETING





area updates

The 2022 Area A Convention was a great success at Saint Thomas Episcopal School. Despite the setbacks of major construction and freezing weather, the convention was smooth sailing. The JCL spirit was not quelled by the lockdown, and the energy and excitement filled the gym from the beginning of the convention. From the arts to the academics, people rose to the occasion and schools swept the board. It was a great comeback from the lockdown, and even when the weather and construction tried to hold us back, the Area A JCL continued to push forward and celebrate.--Terrence Li & Karah Phang, Area A Co-Chairs

> Although the planning and execution was tough, it was a great event and not something I have experienced before. I was happy to see all of the students enjoying their time, meeting new friends, and smiling. One thing that I did not expect was he lightsaber duels in the courtyard but it was fun seeing something that caught me off guard. -- Jose Alavarado, Area C Chair

area updates

Salve(te)! Up in the North, the Area D Convention went off (more or less) without a hitch. It took place at Amarillo High School on Saturday, January 22. For the first time in three years, the convention was in-person, and we still managed to attract more than 100 JClers, so I consider that a win. We had some fun activities at lunch such as Rota and Latin ScrabbleTM. I think Area D also got pretty good at learning the Pledge of Allegiance in Latin since that's how we started the whole convention. Very fun and novel! That's the gist of what Area D's been up to. Signing off, Rohit Saralaya, Area D Chair

> Taking place on February 25th and 26th, the Area F Convention was a smash hit. Between intense certamen rounds and tests going to the tie breakers, it had it all. Everybody had a great time and the Area F Convention was a massive success. -- Kushaal Singh & Nisha Vishag, Area F Co-Chairs



















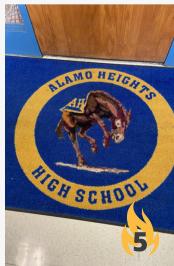
























Candidates' Open Forum is happening from 3:00-4:00 on Saturday! If you'd like to submit a question to the candidates, visit this <u>link</u>.

Voting takes place before the final General Assembly. Reminder: only schools who are in good standing and have sent at least two students to NomCom can vote.

Learn more about the candidates below:

President

Jacqueline Huang

Years in JCL: 3

Favorite JCL Memory:

My favorite JCL memory was practicing with the Texas novice certamen team in preparation for nationals. Besides practices, we would also meet up in midnight Zoom calls, playing Among Us or Drawsaurus or Garctic Phone until we were too tired to keep our eyes open. I met 9 amazing people through my computer screen who I am proud to call my friends even till today.



What goals do you have for your term?

My main goal will be to promote communication, unity, and growth across all of TSJCL, from the state executive board to each area to each individual chapter. Therefore, I propose the creation of a special committee composed of individual TSJCL members, and this committee would be open for all to join. With this committee, the officer board can directly communicate with many individuals from multiple chapters and foster a greater sense of unity among all TSJCLers. Members would be able to take back valuable lessons to their own chapters on how to unify and communicate with Latin students and non-Latin students alike, thus hopefully fostering a greater interest for Latin in their community. I also suggest a TSJCL YouTube channel where videos about TSJCL can be posted for everyone to access and see what amazing things TSJCL has to offer.

President

Jacqueline Huang

How has your past experience prepared you for your role?

My past experience includes being the Reagan Latin Club social chairperson and vice president along with having attended 2 state conventions and 2 national conventions. As a Latin Club officer, I have held a majority of our monthly meetings this year and helped supervise the others. I keep my Latin teacher alert and informed every week by presenting an agenda of tasks, events that need scheduling, and deadlines to her, and I also keep my officer team up to date with all the club proceedings with constant reminders. The 4 conventions I have attended have given me valuable insight on what goes on at conventions and how general assemblies and state fellowships are held.

Favorite character, mythological or historical, and why

My favorite mythological character is Elpenor, who fell to his death when he took a step (bad idea) off of a roof. I'll admit, his death was quite funny, but I use him as an example as to why you shouldn't drink too much; otherwise, you'll end up sleeping on the roof like him and then as a flat pancake on the ground.

Favorite English word and why

My favorite English word is "defenestrate." If you study Latin derivatives, you can probably guess the meaning: "to throw a person or thing out of a window." I like this word because not only is it a hilarious word, but I think it's quite relatable. I think most people have thought about defenestrating someone or something in their life.

Haiku that summarizes your platform (inspired by a certain previous open forum question) Connect and unite

Bringing together all minds To form many more



I want to become a TSJCL officer because getting involved in Latin is the best decision I have made as a high schooler, and I want to do more in the community.



Learning Latin helped me find my passion, and JSJCL took that one step further. I have become part of a truly amazing community that has shaped not only my high school experience up to this point, but also me as a person.



The more involved in the TSJCL community I become, the more I realize how important this community is. I have found my place in a talented, loving community that inspires and encourages me. Becoming a TSJCL officer excites me because I know I will be contributing to a community that has given me so much. I love this community from the bottom of my heart, and I really want to share that love.

CJ Valenciano

From the time I was seven years old, Mr. Lee and the Latin Club have been a part of my life. I remember the Latin socials my family would host, the togas my sisters would wear to conventions,



the excitement they would have to compete, and the friendship the Latin community shared with one another. So as soon as I could, I too joined the Latin community, and I too discovered the love my sisters had for TSJCL, fostering new bonds with so many different people at convention, all while immersing myself in the intricacies of the language. But then this part of my life was put on hold when the Covid-19 pandemic struck.

CJ Valenciano

It was here I saw the Latin community I had grown so fond of strain, as the foundation of this community camaraderie - had been supplanted with isolation. But despite this, the Latin community and the TSJCL officers adapted and overcame, leading through adversity, inspiring those like myself to adopt this same mindset, all while keeping the Latin curriculum and community advancing despite troubling times. I hope to continue this excellence, and I hope to make up for lost time, strengthening the already tight bond the Latin community has for one another through my leadership position as First Vice President.

2nd Vice President



Years in JCL: 3

Favorite JCL Memory:

I don't have a specific favorite memory, but I would say meeting so many different people at JCL competitions that I still stay in contact with.



What goals do you have for your term?

One goal that I have is to make sure that competition rules are more easily accessible. To someone who has not competed in JCL before, the rules can be hard to locate and understand. I want to make sure that all students and sponsors have quick and easy access in order to reference rules.

2nd Vice President



How has your past experience prepared you for your role?

I've served in officer positions in a multitude of different activities. I am a 1st Lieutenant in JROTC, the President of my school's JCL, and have served as the Chief Marketing Officer for the Tech Club. I have experience creating rules and guiding others. I have competed in academic and classical civilization contests.

Favorite character, mythological or historical, and why

My favorite mythological character would be Minerva. As the goddess of wisdom and the arts, I feel like she stands for the values that I espouse: truth, strategy, and creativity.

Favorite English word and why

Pneumonoultramicroscopicsilicovolcanoconiosis. I used to compete in spelling bees and everyone learned this word for fun. One of my friends and I would spell this word in sync as a "secret handshake."



Secretary



Years in JCL: 2 Favorite JCL Memory:

The day that I found out that I got 2nd in PMAQ at the State Convention. I had to stay up completing work all night the day of the competition so I didn't even know if my answers were even coherent but I guess it all worked out.



What goals do you have for your term?

If elected I hope to expand the involvement of students that are in intermediate schools in TSJCL and Latin overall. At most public schools Latin isn't offered as a foreign language to non-high schoolers, and many believe that it is nothing more than a dead language. I hope to encourage schools that don't offer Latin as a language class to sign their students up to be members-at-large through persistent effort and membership drives.

Secretary

How has your past experience prepared you for your role? Preparing for Latin competitions has taught me persistence like no other previous activity has. From the moment you click on an academic test or the second the first toss-up is presented, you are left with only the knowledge you have forged through countless hours of work as your weapon to fight your way to victory.

Favorite character, mythological or historical, and why Marcus Junius Brutus. I read Shakespeare's Julius Caesar and got to see how important preserving the Roman Republic was to Brutus. This is one of the purest forms of love, not born out of ambition but out of duty.

Favorite English word and why

Glory Abolo

Serendipity. This word practically sums up how I ended up being switched to a Latin class instead of continuing on with French. It's also really fun to say.

Haiku that summarizes your platform (inspired by a certain previous open forum question)

Teach art and culture Perstare et Praestare

Enlighten the youth

Outreach Coordinator



Years in JCL: 2 Favorite JCL Memory:

One of my favorite JCL memories is attending a Zoom session with author Madeline Miller at the State convention in 2021. Despite everything being virtual, I was still able to enjoy my first state convention and meet many other students!



What goals do you have for your term?

As OutCo, I want to continue to support the spirit of TSJCLers, especially as we return to in-person events. I also want to keep all members across the state of Texas connected, so I plan to be very active on social media and keep up our strong spirit! This year, I would like to continue our impact through service projects, on the local, state, and national levels, too!

Outreach Coordinator



How has your past experience prepared you for your role?

Although this is only my second year in TSJCL, I feel that my past experience as a member of many clubs at my school has prepared me for the role of OutCo. I have been a member of the student council for three years in which I have planned dances, pep rallies, and decorated hallways for spirit weeks. I am a member of the National Honor Society and a Young Entrepreneurs Club, in which I served as an officer and planned fundraising events for charity. I am also active in my community as I volunteer at our local symphony and Meals on Wheels organization.

Favorite character, mythological or historical, and why

Pliny the Elder is my favorite historical figure because he not only wrote a massive account of the natural world, but he also heroically died while trying to save his friend from the eruption of Mount Vesuvius. Pretty cool guy.

Favorite English word and why

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My favorite word is aestās (summer) because it is one of the first words I learned in Latin. Summer is also my favorite season because I love warm weather, and my birthday is in July!



Years in JCL: 2

Favorite JCL Memory:

My first in person JCL event has been my favorite memory. After everything was virtual, it was refreshing to meet other Latin students with similar interests. The area competition offered a time to laugh with others and compete in person (which is always nice).



What goals do you have for your term?

Besides creating a great scrapbook, I hope to increase participation in the publicity contest. Doing so would result in an increase in JCL publicity not only at the local levels but also in the state. This would accumulate more publicity ideas while giving more chapter representation. I'm not exactly sure what course of action would bring the best results yet, but I know this has to be a state effort in order to be successful. I hope to encourage each chapter to enter and do my best to fulfill my role.



How has your past experience prepared you for your role?

I have taken 4 years of personal art courses along with 3 years of high school credit classes. These years have allowed me to gain art skills and techniques that would help with the designing of the state scrapbook. Beyond this, I also have experience in DECA and my church's media booth. Both extracurriculars have led me to acquire graphic design and organization skills. These are both are of use for the management of the contests and keeping of historical and photographic records. Through these experiences, I was able to prepare myself for this role.

Favorite character, mythological or historical, and why

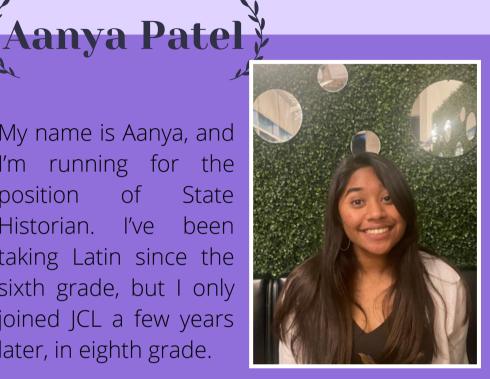
My favorite character is Narcissus because he represents a tragic yet beautiful myth that reminds me to remember there are often two sides to the story. Most claim that he had passed due to his obnoxious self-love, but some also say it was for him to remember the features of his late twin sister. The flower named after him also has some claim it represents an early death, while others say it's for new beginnings.

Favorite English word and why

My favorite word is homunculus. I mostly enjoy it because it's fun to say. It sounds different in English than in Latin, but both are just as fun.



My name is Aanya, and I'm running for the position of State Historian. I've been taking Latin since the sixth grade, but I only joined JCL a few years later, in eighth grade.



At first, I thought JCL was going to be a bunch of kids taking tests all day, but I was quickly proven wrong. At my first Area convention, I met so many new people who had so many different interests. My favorite part of JCL became meeting new people, and taking photos with them to capture the memories. This is one of two things that drew me towards the position of historian.

Aanya Patel

The first is that I've been on the yearbook staff for three years, and I now hold positions as a photo editor and a section editor, which I enjoy very much, and making a scrapbook is similar to that. The second is that I love the idea of being able to consolidate all of the memories that everyone has of the year into one book, something that everyone can look at and reminisce about, even if they aren't in every photo. My reason for becoming a TSJCL officer is to try to bring that feeling of togetherness to everyone with the book, because despite our differences, we're all here for JCL, and that deserves to be remembered.

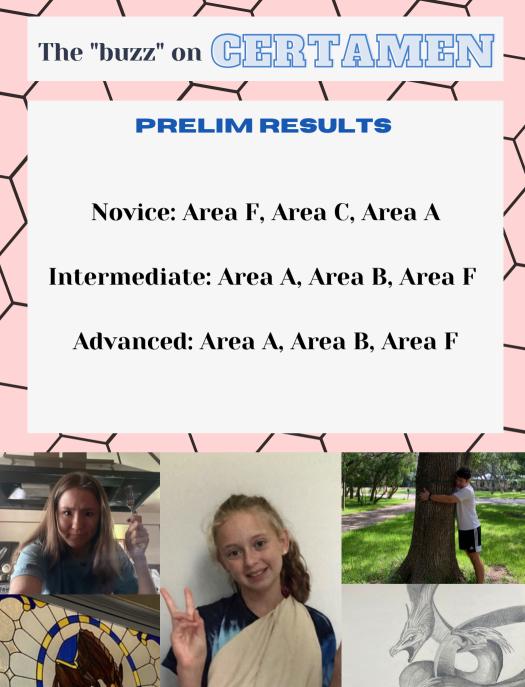


Want to become a TSJCL officer for the 2022-2023 school year? Apply for one of the appointed positions: Treasurer, Parliamentarian, Editor, Webmaster, or Convention Coordinator!

Applicants for appointed positions must complete a nomination form, submit a resume, and have an interview after state. Find more info <u>here</u>.













GUESS WHO? (OR WHAT?)









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ACROSS

2. Max number of players on a Certamen team 3. Hodie est ante diem V ____ Aprilis 6. Academic contest covering 10 subjects 8. The TSICL was founded in the _____ (decade) 9. Org. you should join after "graduating" from the **TSICL** 11. Number of areas in the TSJCL 13. Must be filled and signed alongside each art submission 14. Latin I students compete in the ____ level of Certamen 15. Author of this year's NJCL theme, "Cantantes licet usque (minus via laedit) eamus" 16. Where this year's candidates "open"-ly discuss their platforms

DOWN

 Host school of the 2022 TSJCL Convention
Competition where schools, not students, compete
Host city of the 2022 TSJCL Convention
You can suggest changes to the TSJCL constitution by submitting a(n)
For one of this year's service projects, we'll be writing _____ to St Jude's patients
Namesake of award that reimburses the cost of attending Nationals

Thank you for reading, and have a great rest of your convention!

