

FORUM FACTORUM

DEC 2014 // ISSUE II // VOLUME XLI



EDITOR'S NOTE



Howdy, MassJCLers! I hope that this new school year has been doing you good and that, fingers-crossed, you have been getting enough sleep. [Although, I must admit that Netflix is a solid excuse for staying up—watch the show *White Collar* if you're looking for something new.] Anyways, I hope that you are excited for the holidays and upcoming MassJCL events! In this issue, you will learn a little bit about us, your MassJCL officers. I hope to learn a little more about you MassJCLers as well—feel free to approach me with anything and everything, from how to write for the FF to Netflix recommendations. (:

See you all soon, Linda Qin

LETTER FROM THE FIRST VP

Salvete, omnes! *Venit hiems.* Moreover, I would like to extend a warm welcome to our annual Classics Day at BU! This year's theme, if it isn't etched into your minds by now, is "Mythology: Religion of Yore." If learning about ancient Greek and Roman myths doesn't interest you, you can always explore Chinese or Indo-European myth, brush up your Latin skills, pick up the Greek alphabet or discover the religious, medicinal or astrological aspects of myth today! And most importantly, don't be afraid to make new friends at Classics Day! It can be as simple as asking them what workshop they'll be attending next.

Ab imo pectore, Julia Pan

WE WOULD LIKE TO APOLOGIZE FOR TWO ERRORS IN THE PREVIOUS ISSUE. THE CAPTAIN OF MASSJCL'S NOVICE CERTAMEN TEAM IS JONATHAN YUAN, AS WELL, PETER WANG IS THE WRITER OF THE INTERMEDIATE CERTAMEN REPORT.

state chairs MS. TAMARA BAUER, MS. JANET FILLION, MS. VIET LUONG, DR. ANNE NELSON, MS. NANCY SINACOLA

Howdy, MassJCLers! I hope that this new school year has been



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(nota bene: all uncredited pictures

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EXECUTIVE BOARD 2014-2015

MEET YOUR OFFICERS//

CHAOS /PREZ

1. Looking on in horror as Dan stuffed 4 marshmallows in his mouth
2. The power
3. -Skydive
- Own a ball python
- Break a 400 lb deadlift
- Travel to Paris again
- Defeat the reaper in a sick Pokémon showdown
4. 😊



APHRO- DITE /2VP

1. StateCon 2014 with all you beautiful people
2. Being able to interact with JCLers and talk about the amelioration of our organization
3. -Speak only in Latin for a year
- Walk around Rome and Greece
- Eat *garum* and *glis*
- Meet Ovid
- Become Vergil
4. <3



HERA /MVP

1. So hard to choose... Rahi in a Pikachu suit two years ago!
2. UM EVERYTHING Obviously.
3. -Watch an improv show
- Start the TV series *Battlestar Galactica*.
- Create a lot of helpful publicity content for MassJCL.
- Relax and enjoy my final State Convention as a JCLer.
- Organize a well-run Classics Day. :)
4. XD



1. MOST MEMORABLE MASSJCL MOMENT
2. FAVORITE PART OF YOUR OFFICE
3. FIVE THINGS ON YOUR BUCKET LIST
4. MOST USED EMOJI

MER CURY /SECRE- TARY



1. The fun times I had with my high school besties at my first convention, as a seventh grader.
2. I like never missing a joke because, for the minutes, I never miss a word of dialogue.
3. -Become fluent in my mother tongue of Fante
-Experience the Eiffel Tower
-Learn how to swim
-Write a novel and an anthology of poems
-Become fluent in a foreign language

4. :-P

PLUTO /TREASURER

1. When I took a selfie with Rahi Punjabi dressed as Pikachu.
2. It's all pretty rad but writing lots of checks is really fun because I feel really legit.
3. -Get my Hogwarts acceptance letter
-Play a one-on-one basketball game against LeBron James
-Go to a Maroon5 concert.
-Complete a Triathlon
-Take a selfie with Ellen DeGeneres.
4. It alternates between



MINERVA /PARLI

1. Spirit at Nationals!
That was amazing!
2. Running the elections and Open Forum; it's so exciting to help ensure that everyone votes for the candidate whom they support the most.
3. -Marathon the extended versions of *Lord of the Rings* after reading the books back to back
- "Nuzlocke" a Hoenn and a Kanto Pokémon game
-Avoid going skydiving
-Get a doctorate in either Sweden or Finland to get a doctoral top hat (Probably Finland so I also get a sword)
-Live the last years of my life drinking tea, playing pai-sho, spreading wisdom throughout the world and not spoiling all of *Legend of Korra*

4. :D

/HISTO- RIAN CLIO

5

1. Being elected historian:)
2. Taking pictures of people when they don't notice
3. -Visit the Eiffel Tower
-Sleep under the stars
-Shower under a waterfall
-Swim with dolphins
-Visit space
4. 



/EDITOR IRIS



1. 2013 Snowball and looking at all the fantastic graphic arts at States
2. Finally seeing my hard work pay off when I look at the hard copies of the newsletters
3. -Learn to skateboard and surf
-Go to Iceland; watch the Northern lights
-Throw a dart on a map and travel to wherever it lands
-Write something in wet cement
-Save a life, somehow
4. 



/TECH-CO ARTEMIS

1. Being part of the advanced *Certamen* team with last year's team
2. The chance to play around with the website's coding
3. -Go to the Wizarding World of Harry Potter in Florida
-Complete the Candy Crush game (Both actual and Dream World)
- Live long enough to see a Pokémon game containing all regions to travel to
-Go to Japan, the land of anime and manga
- Reattempt that time when my cupcake mix resulted in making bagels with holes.
4. :P

The annual Kickoff Event took place on October 25 at Mt. Greylock Regional High. Students enjoyed a wide variety of activities, including the Yellow Submarine Improv Troupe, *Certamen* scrimmages, tours of the Clark Museum, SPQM [*senatus populusque Massachusetts*], worm and hula hoop scrimmages, officer workshops

and catapult contests. For many, Kickoff is all about the catapults, and Mt. Greylock is no exception to the rule.

Kickoff is the one time during the year that our school doesn't have to travel, and it makes all the difference in our competition. This year, we started set-up of our catapult the week before Kickoff. With this added benefit, Mt. Greylock was able to make many adjustments to optimize the

distance of the projectile.

For Mt. Greylock, everything came down to the final moments when the pin was pulled and the distance was announced. Everyone waited in anticipation trying to figure out who won the catapult contest. We prayed that there wouldn't be a repeat of last year, and thankfully our catapult team took first place.

OVERVIEW // BY KATIE DAVIS, MTG

KICKOFF

CATAPULT TIPS // BY DEVIN BURNS, FRANKLIN

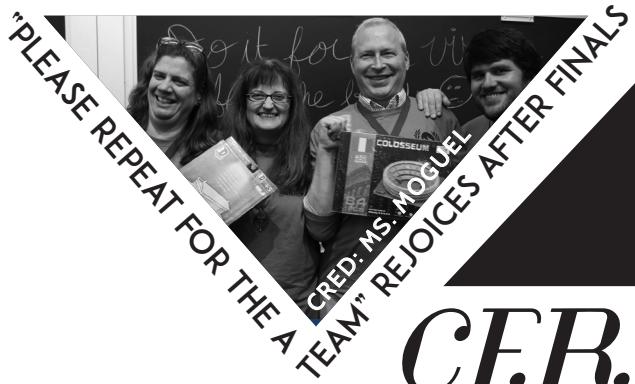
For our catapult, we break up the process into three phases: planning, construction, and testing.

During planning, we start by drawing up a basic idea of what we want to do and the measurements of the catapult. We then determine what materials, and how many of them, we need. Once we

have our materials, we assemble the catapult exactly as it was drawn on our initial design. Once it is assembled, we make changes as needed.

Testing is vital to the building process so that you are able to fix the kinks before the day of the competition. One of our priorities was to cre-

ate the catapult in a way that it could be broken down into small pieces easily for transportation purposes. We also got the help of a physics teacher who was apt in using power tools and other equipment to help with the planning and construction process.



CERTAMEN: NORTHEASTERN ELITE

//by daniel sherman, BLS

When most hear the word *Certamen*, they think of a highly competitive game where JCLers try to answer questions with lightning speed. On October 4, at Boston University, *Certamen* took on new meaning as Latin teachers, SCLers and *Certamen* coaches themselves vied for supremacy in this vivifying game. In this exhilarating competition, I was privileged to moderate for these Latin enthusiasts, among whom were my own BLS teachers, in a most entertaining reversal of position. I watched as my teachers disregarded many *Certamen* regulations which they had so vehemently driven into the fabric of their students' minds. This time, we had the power to criticize them for their errors.

They demonstrated their "disobedience" by talking during the reading of a toss-up, conferring too long on *boni* and arguing with the

moderator. They even incorrectly answered questions that appeared almost verbatim in our own practice sessions. The distinction of perpetrating the most grievous error, to the

amusement of everyone, rests with one BLS team member, who ignominiously uttered the forbidden word, punishable by a hail of criticisms for not even trying to answer: "pass." The hilarious interchanges between the teams and mod-

erator cultivated great, though unanticipated, entertainment.

The 2014 annual Northeastern Elite *Certamen* ended successfully, thanks to those who brilliantly organized it. The competition is an invaluable opportunity for non-JCLers to compete in this contest of knowledge, and the participants' eagerness to return next year stands as a testament to the Northeastern Elite's distinction.

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As the summer ended and eighth grade began, I started to ready myself for the beginning of another year of JCL and *Certamen*. Near the top of that agenda was the Yale Invitational *Certamen* event, which I attended on November 8.

After one very long car ride, I arrived at the Yale campus and found that I was met with an abundance of emotions. I was excited for the first *Certamen* match of the year, but I was terrified for the same reason. Going into round 1, I felt that my teammates and I had a pretty good chance, with Ashley Chao and her massive knowledge of mythology, Nicholas Weiske and his slightly unhealthy obsession of history, and lastly, John Nguyen rocking the culture and MAQs, while I had language.

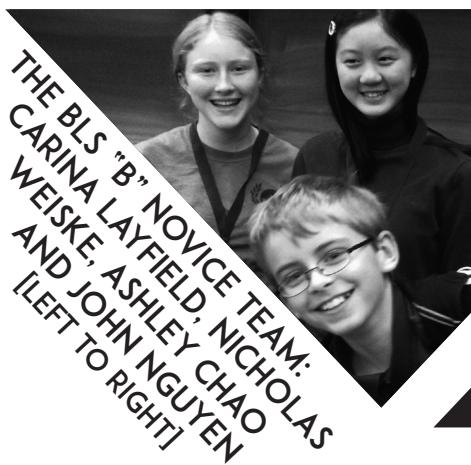
CERTAMEN: YALE //by *carina layfield, BLS*

By the end of the first three rounds, my team had managed to score 725 points, landing us with the first seed going into semifinals. Before semis, I was extremely nervous, because if we lost we were done, and there would be no more *Certamen* for the day. After the 15th question, we were only ahead by 40 points; it was still anyone's game. Luckily, we were able to work together as a team and win the round.

Interestingly enough, before finals, I wasn't at all nervous. However, the teams we were facing were a lot faster than us, and by tossup 5, the nerves kicked in again. The Oak Hall School from Florida only had two people, but after ten questions, we were tied with them with only 30 points. Nevertheless, we were still able to work together as a team, and

by question 15 we had pulled ahead of Florida and were just behind Basis DC by a few points.

The final places were Basis DC: first, Boston Latin School B: second, and Oak Hall: third. I wasn't sad though; we had made it that far as a team, and getting second was a huge accomplishment. In fact, finals and semis were probably two of the best matches because they were so competitive. *Certamen* is not as fun when one doesn't have a challenging opponent, and DC and Florida were definitely challenging. I cannot wait for the next tournament, and I look forward to competing, regardless of the outcome.



THE BLS "B" NOVICE TEAM:
CARINA LAYFIELD, NICHOLAS
WEISKE, ASHLEY CHAO
AND JOHN NGUYEN
[LEFT TO RIGHT]

MASSJCL CHALLENGE

2VP: HANNA SEARIAC

Want to get more involved with the community? You're not alone; let's do it together. This year I challenge all of you to participate in the MassJCL Challenge, an individual community service contest. Additionally, write some letters to soldiers overseas to show our gratitude for what they do for us. Simply, during the fall help out a food pantry, during the winter make blankets for Project Linus, and during the

spring participate in an environment clean up and take pictures and fill out the submission form on the website. Submit to Hanna Seariac on the first night of convention. Prizes will not be sweepstakes points. However, you will get fame, glory, your name read over the podium, and a fun prize. Let's change the community, one project at a time.

FOLLOW "COWTULLUS" ON FACEBOOK FOR MORE INFO.



Dear MassJCLers!

I am Dan Packer, your Parliamentarian, and I am very excited to have the chance to talk to you about candidacy and why you should run for office on the state executive board.

Participating on the board is one of the best ways to get involved in the JCL. Despite the immediate intimidation of running for office, it can be both simple and fun, as long as you are qualified. Registering is very easy, and once you

get used to it, campaigning is one the most fun things to do at state convention. Also, if you are from a small school, having a member of your chapter on the executive board is a great opportunity to give your school a greater say in MassJCL. Just running for office brings in an extra point for your school towards the trophy. If you are qualified for office, then run for it! It is a win-win situation that is simply fun to be a part of.

For those who have made up your minds already, there is no time like the present to send in your candidacy and start preparing your campaign for state convention. Do not forget that attending board meetings and talking to

executive board officers are two great ways to ensure that you are ready to run for office. The earlier that you decide, the better your campaign, and thus the greater your odds of winning will be. Do not pass up such a great opportunity to to get yourself and your chapter more involved in the JCL.

Ex animo,
*Daniel
Packer*

MassJCL 2014-2015
Parliamentarian

updates & upcoming

catapult results

TREBUCHET
1ST: MOUNT GREYLOCK
2ND: FRANKLIN
3RD: BLS

BALLISTA
1ST: CLASSICAL MAGNET
2ND: BLS
3RD: BLA

MARSHMALLOW
1ST: TACONIC
2ND: BLA
3RD: MONTROSE

THESE SCORES COUNT FOR
WHOLE SCHOOL POINTS AT
STATES; CHECK THE FORMS AT
MASSJCL.ORG FOR MORE INFO

midnight masquerade

@ THE BOSTON
COMMONS HOTEL

PLUS A TALENT SHOW,
OPEN MIC, BOARD
GAMES & MORE!

april
1, 2015

march
21, 2015

early deadlines

- NEWSLETTER CONTEST
- WEBSITE CONTEST
- MULTIMEDIA CONTEST
- PUBLICITY CONTEST
- CREATIVE WRITING CONTEST

- SCRAPBOOK BONUS POINTS
- CANDIDACY FORM
- NJCL SCHOLARSHIP

DETAILS @ MASSJCL.ORG

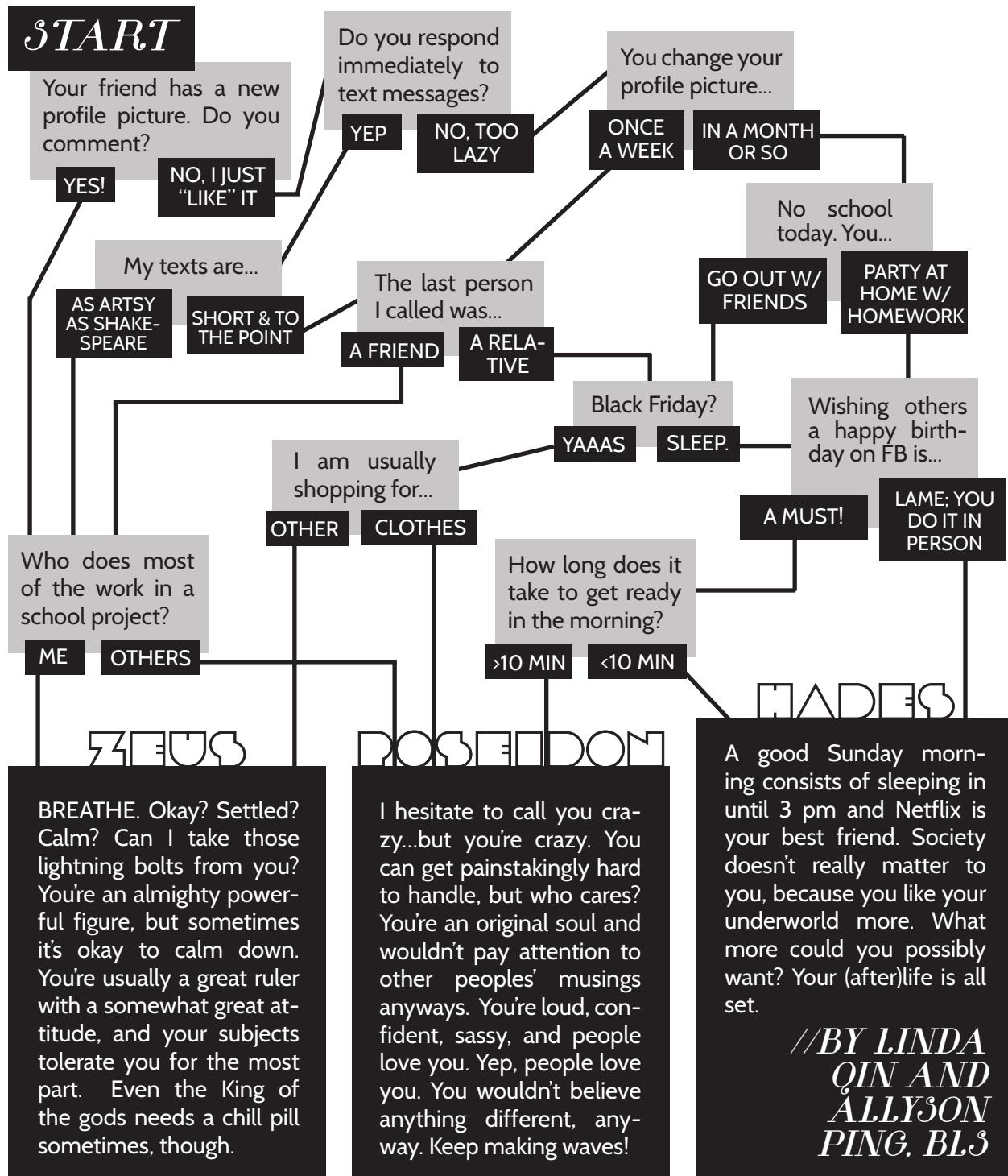
2015 massjcl state convention

- NEW LOCATION:
STURBRIDGE HOST HOTEL
AND CONFERENCE CENTER
- JOIN US FOR A FUN

- FILLED WEEKEND
OF CLASSICS!
- ARTS, OLYMPIKA, CERTA-
MEN, DANCES & MORE!

may
1-3, 2015

WHICH OLYMPIAN OF THE BIG THREE ARE YOU?



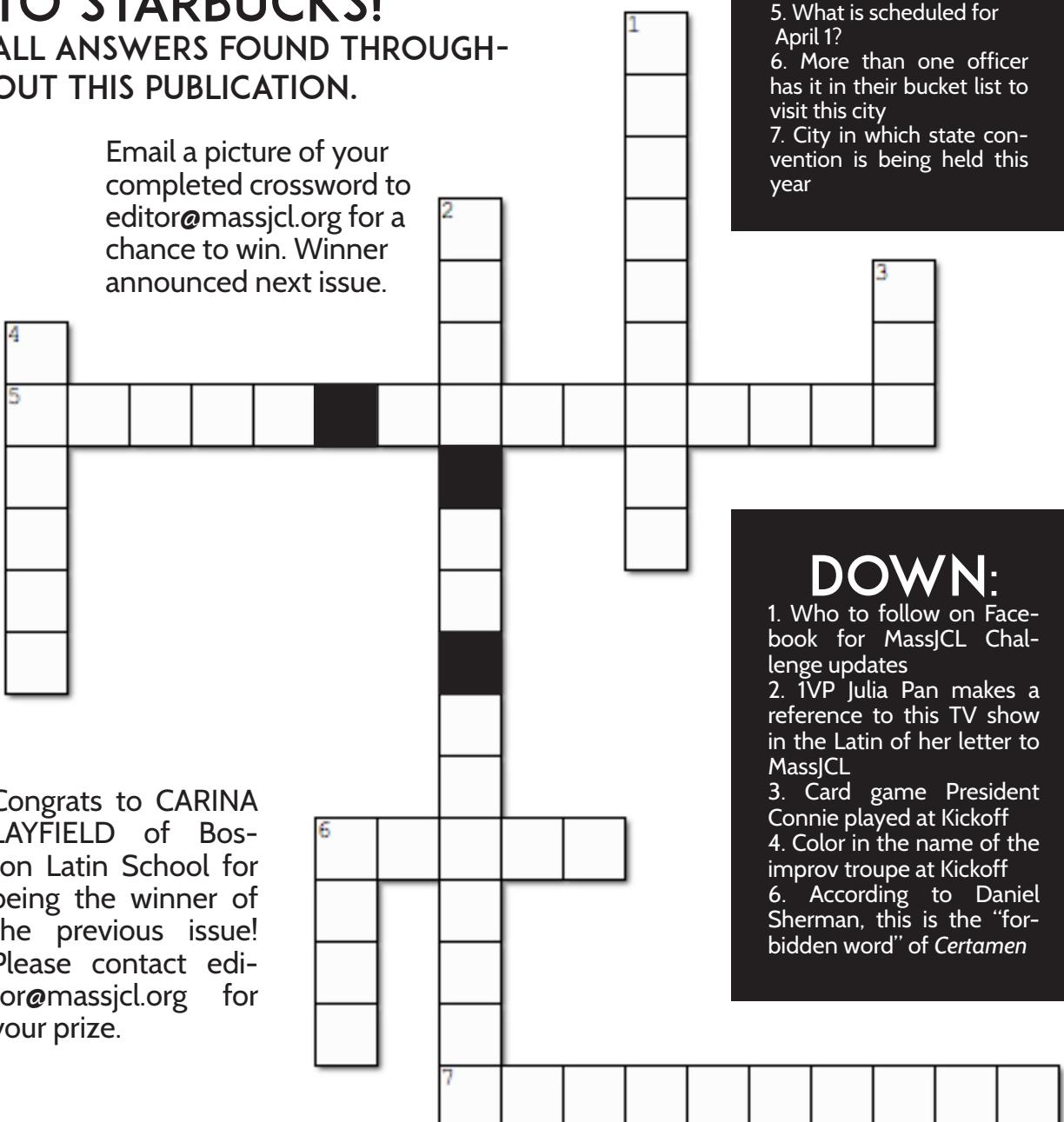
12

crossword.

WIN A GIFT CARD TO STARBUCKS!

ALL ANSWERS FOUND THROUGH-
OUT THIS PUBLICATION.

Email a picture of your completed crossword to editor@massjcl.org for a chance to win. Winner announced next issue.



Congrats to CARINA LAYFIELD of Boston Latin School for being the winner of the previous issue! Please contact editor@massjcl.org for your prize.

ACROSS:

- What is scheduled for April 1?
- More than one officer has it in their bucket list to visit this city
- City in which state convention is being held this year

DOWN:

- Who to follow on Facebook for MassJCL Challenge updates
- 1VP Julia Pan makes a reference to this TV show in the Latin of her letter to MassJCL
- Card game President Connie played at Kickoff
- Color in the name of the improv troupe at Kickoff
- According to Daniel Sherman, this is the "forbidden word" of *Certamen*

NEPTUNE AND AMPHITRITE //BY NATHAN OALICAN, BLS. //STATES: COLOR PHOTO 1ST

COLOSSEUM //BY EMILY HODGES, RISING TIDE. //STATES: COLOR PHOTO 1ST

NEPTUNE AND AMPHITRITE //BY NATHAN OALICAN, BLS. //STATES: COLOR PHOTO 1ST

RPHEUS

ART AREA

/BY YINYU JI, BLS; MASSJCL STATES: 1ST POETRY

I heard your voice
In the dark.
In the light
I followed you to the
End of the tunnel.
But in the end
You turned and I left.



TEACHERS ATTEMPT TO FOCUS AT NORTHEASTERN ELITE CERTAMEN



PREZ. CONNIE TURNS COMPETITIVE IN A GAME OF E.R.S.



SOME PEOPLE ARE JUST TOO EXCITED TO BE ON A BUS AT 6AM



LOOK AT THAT ARROW FLY!

MASSJCL MOMENTS



STUDENTS FEEL THE PAIN OF THE WORM



THE IMPROV-TROUPE STEALS THE SHOW



TREASURER MARY'S RE-ENACTMENT OF HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL AT MOUNT GREYLOCK

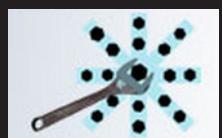


"COWTULLUS," MASCOT OF THE 2VP MASSJCL CHALLENGE, MODELS FOR OUR CAMERA



Schell Printing in Jamaica Plain for their generous work with this issue

GRATIAS MAXIMAS!
AS ALWAYS, THANK YOU FROM MASSJCL



Mr. Hannigan at Merrimax Web for donating state and local websites