

FORUM FACTORUM

MAY 2015 // ISSUE III // VOLUME XLI

HARRY POTTER AND THE CLASSICS [6-7]



COWTULLUS
COLORING PAGE [15]



THE OFFICIAL MASSJCL NEWSLETTER

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CRED: BLS|JCL



EDITOR'S NOTE

Whether it is your first time at State Convention or your last, I hope that you will have the time of your life meeting new friends, reconnecting with old ones and participating in contests and games. Making this States issue and the *Convention Ear* has been an exhausting but exciting and fun process. Whenever you have some down time during this weekend [highly unlikely considering our busy schedule, but one can hope], peruse through the FF! Who knows? Maybe you'll learn something new, be entertained, or even win a contest. Oh, and here's the answer to number 4 on the crossword: *semper*. The memories made this weekend will last forever.

See you all around,
Linda Qin

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(*nota bene*: all uncredited pictures

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MIDNIGHT MASQUERADE

The Midnight Masquerade was a massive success! From the food to the dance, it was perfect. Adding the chicken to the venue definitely gains brownie points. And MASKS?! I really loved the theme this year. I thought that a masquerade getaway was the perfect escape from my hectic life and a chance just to have fun. MassJCL dances in general are unique from our usual events of competition and tests. Here, we can show the crazy, dancing side we thought we never had, and I believe that this year has been the best one yet. From when I first stepped onto the dance floor—and mind you, I'm not a dancer, but with the pumping music and being surrounded by enjoyable, dancing people, I couldn't resist joining in—I felt the energy. Even before the dance, the talent show was definitely entertaining and sparked my party vibes. From dancing the night away, eating delicious food and playing some games here and there, the 2015 MassJCL Midnight Masquerade was an amazing night to remember. Positively, next year will be just as memorable or even better than this year. Don't knock it 'til you try it!

Veena Lagare, MassJCL Historian





Classics Day at Boston University was a very exciting day, not only for myself, but for all of the people from Rising Tide. After a cramped 'T' ride, everyone was ready to dive right into the day. After the opening ceremonies, everyone broke off into a variety of different Classically-themed workshops.

I had the pleasure of attending "Drama As Religion: a Celebration of Dionysus," lead by Stephanie Nelson, a Classics professor at Boston University. Ms. Nelson spoke about the origins of Greek comedies and tragedies, and how heavily influenced Greek theater was by the religion of the time. We analyzed images of different pieces of art, and talked about our own experiences with different pieces of Greek theater while tracing how different settings and characters connected back to the religion. Ms. Nelson kept us engaged, and made sure to connect what she was saying to different works that people in the workshop had read.

The second workshop I attended

was "The Real Housewives of Mt. Olympus," run by Rebekah Wysocki, a graduate student at Boston University. Ms. Wysocki, who kept on moving and walking through the aisles to engage us, traced the different feuds and relationships of the Greek goddesses. Ms. Wysocki kept the workshop humorous and exciting, but still made sure to emphasize the differences in how gods and goddesses are portrayed, and how that can sometimes be problematic. Classics Day was an amazing experience, as was expected. The workshops were masterfully presented, and kept everyone engaged. The different skits that schools put on were most certainly entertaining. And, in addition, the food we were served for lunch was absolutely delicious. It was truly one of the best JCL events I have attended thus far.

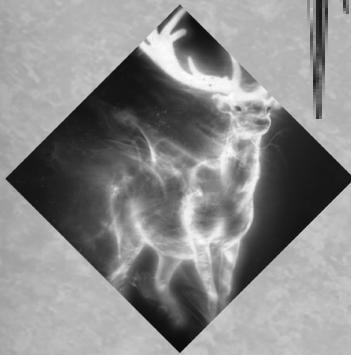
TYLER NICHOLSON
RISING TIDE

CLASSICS



← ←
DAY 2015

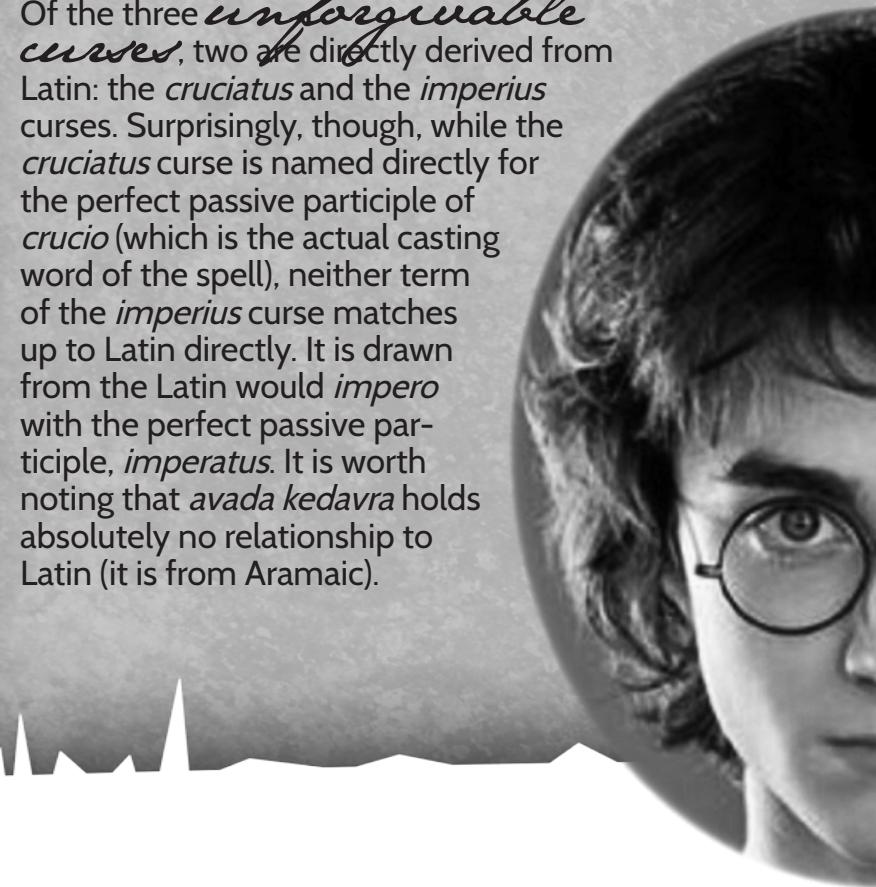
Harry Potter



The *patronus charm* is a spell that references one of its exact Latin translations, as protector. In the series, one generally has the same “patronus” for one’s life in a similar fashion to the client-patron system of Rome.

ON SPELLS

Of the three *unforgivable curses*, two are directly derived from Latin: the *cruciatus* and the *imperius* curses. Surprisingly, though, while the *cruciatus* curse is named directly for the perfect passive participle of *crucio* (which is the actual casting word of the spell), neither term of the *imperius* curse matches up to Latin directly. It is drawn from the Latin word *impero* with the perfect passive participle, *imperatus*. It is worth noting that *avada kedavra* holds absolutely no relationship to Latin (it is from Aramaic).



...and the Classics

7

Fluffy, the three-headed dog who guards the trapdoor down toward the Sorceror's Stone, is a clear referece to Cerberus, the guard dog of the Underworld. The *Dementors* of Azkaban are named after the word *demento*, meaning "to drive crazy."



ON NAMES

The name "*Bellatrix*" actually means female warrior, an apt description for the character in the book. Dumbledore's first name, "*Albus*," means white or bright, a character theme that JKR visits often in her descriptions of him. Hagrid's first name, "*Rubeus*," means red. I think that we all can figure out Severus Snape.



by Daniel Packer
Max & Parliamentarian

8



@MASSJCL



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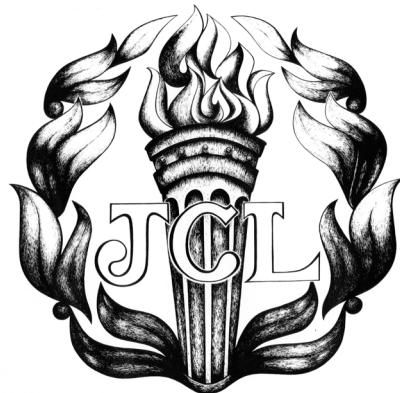


/MASSJCL



@WEAREMAJCL





O belovéd MassJCLers,

Welcome to the 59th Annual Massachusetts Junior Classical League
STATE CONVENTION!!

My predecessor Joana Jankulla said, "State Convention is all about you!" I'd like to modify that statement. State Convention is all about you—AND the people you meet.

So make new friends. Host impromptu jam sessions. Challenge a stranger to ERS. Compliment that underclassman on his costume. Ask that girl who her favorite emperor is. Invite a stranger to break bread with you.

To the seasoned JCLers: Take care of the younger students. Show them your favorite parts of convention. Remember how you felt as a first-time Convention-goer, and be compassionate.

To the not-so-seasoned JCLers: Don't be afraid to try something new. Seriously. You won't regret it. (Embrace your uncomfor^t zone, as one would say.)

In closing, the officers and state chairs have worked very hard to make this convention a success. We are grateful for the help of the sponsors, chaperones, and SCLers. If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, don't hesitate to approach an officer! We're friendly. Promise.

Here's to a fantastic convention.

E pectore,
Connie Chang
2014 - 2015 MassJCL President



Let's hear it for spirit, MassJCL! This year we have an exciting new development: two days of spirit! Let me be your guide on how to survive two days of yelling, screaming, but abiding by the Spirit Rules in Sturbridge!



HANNA SEARIAC, 2VP



SATURDAY: ROCKIN' ROMANS!

Beware of people randomly spewing renditions of "Scar Tissue" by the Red Hot Chili Peppers in Latin as they strum their guitars. I suggest you practice hitting the high note of "Dream On" by Aerosmith, more accurately called "*Dormite Erga*" and drink lots of water. Be on the look-out for inflatable guitars and disco balls taking over the hotel!

SUNDAY: CLAM CHOWDA CLASSICS!

Now, we all live in Massachusetts and most of us have traveled to Boston to partake of the pure white creamy heavenly concoction affectionately called "Clam Chowda". Additionally, Massachusetts was one of the "classic" thirteen original colonies and we are a convention devoted to the Classics (plus, alliteration made this sound catchy). So let us together celebrate the history of Massachusetts and the history of Rome at the same time. Let us blend together two beautiful societies, one known especially for their correct pronunciation of words. ;)



Well that's all there is to it! Just to let you know: if you don't cheer, I will come over and personally encourage you to. Just kidding! Have a great convention!

CERTAMEN CORNER

11

BLA
novice:
BLS// BLS// ACTON-BOXBOROUGH
intermediate:
BLS// AMSA// BLS
advanced:
BLS// BLS// BLA

BLS
novice:
BLS// BLS// BLS
intermediate:
BLS// AMSA// EXETER
advanced:
BLS// BLS// BLS

SCL
novice:
BLS// BLS// NEEDHAM
intermediate:
BLS// AMSA// BLS
advanced:
BLS// BLS// BLA

HARVARD
novice:
BLS// BLS// BASIS DC
intermediate:
BLS// BROOKFIELD// BLS
advanced:
BLS// BLS// BROOKFIELD

MAY 1 IN HISTORY

MassJCLers: our State Convention begins this Friday, May 1. Now, look back exactly 1,710 years ago. It is 305 A.D. and you are in the Roman Empire. It is a time of chaos, and all sorts of crazy generals were proclaiming themselves emperor—until the current emperor, Diocletian that is. He has surprisingly been able to keep power for over twenty years now. Most other emperors have only held power for less than ten years.

Recently, he has not been doing a great job maintaining peace in the empire. A religious truce was established forty years ago, and Diocletian ignored it and began to persecute Christians. Two years ago, he ordered the destruction of everything that was related to Christianity. He even blamed the Christians when two fires broke out so he could punish them for it. The ironic thing is, his wife is Christian. He also made economic reforms that simply are not working. He set maximum prices for thousands of goods in an attempt to stop inflation, yet he had no regard for supply and demand. Thus, inflation still continues today. Now, on this day, May 1, he finally abdicates. An emperor would actually give up power?

Now back to the present! It is the beginning of May in 2015, and you are enjoying your MassJCL State Convention.

RANDY CHEN, BLS

STATES EDITION

SEE HOW THE

LATIN LITERATURE AND THE 2015 MOTTO

Vergil's *Aeneid*, written 2,000 years ago, chronicles Aeneas' travels across the Mediterranean after the fall of Troy to found a new city, which would preserve Trojan culture and society. Overcoming storms, the wrath of divinities and the temptations of luxury, Aeneas epitomizes the quintessential protagonist. Yet, while trying to conquer these trials, Aeneas encounters great difficulties, loses friends and questions his purpose.

In view of his inexorable tribulations, Aeneas' determination often wanes. However, in Book 6 of the *Aeneid*, the priestess Sibyl advises Aeneas, "Tu ne cede malis, sed contra audentior ito" or "Yield not to misfortunes, but advance all the more boldly against them." The Sibyl had just prophesied impending wars between the Trojan settlers and Italians. Although having endured so many difficulties, Aeneas does advance against this misfortune, because he is driven by his duty to his fatherland, gods, people and family. He bears the responsibility of establishing a new society, from which the greatest power ever seen shall arise—Rome. On account of his determined resolution, Aeneas wins the wars in Italy and consequently preserves Trojan

culture, founds a city for his people and establishes a lineage that produces some of the greatest Roman leaders ever known.

One such leader was Augustus, the first Roman emperor and supposed descendant of Aeneas. Augustus ended a century of civil war, defeated his political adversaries, and established the Roman Empire. He, like Aeneas, did not succumb to the pressures of strife, but advanced against them. As emperor, he passed reformative legislation and worked to dissolve much of the corruption, greed and inequality plaguing Roman society. Rome entered a new era of relative peace, stability and growth. By emulating Aeneas' determination, Augustus accomplished feats of equal magnitude.

The timeless relevance and message of this year's motto underscores the importance of studying Latin literature. The numerous mottoes of JCL exemplify the vast body of philosophical thought contained in classical literature. By studying these texts, understanding the ideas encapsulated in them and applying these concepts to our own lives, we may grow as individuals and as members of society.

DANIEL SHERMAN, BLS

TO MASSJCL'S



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CLASSICS RELATE

13

Aphrodite and Hephaestus: the perfect example of an unlikely pair. As the goddess of love and beauty, Aphrodite was stunningly gorgeous. On the other hand, Hephaestus, the blacksmith god, was lame and, well, not as good-looking. As the myth goes, when Aphrodite arrived on Mount Olympus, Zeus rightly suspected that the gods would fight over her hand in marriage, so he chose Hephaestus as her husband. Hephaestus was pleasantly surprised and, being a good husband, used his skills to make a magic girdle for Aphrodite. It was said that when she wore this girdle, she became irresistible (not that she wasn't already).

Alas, it would have been a happy marriage, had Aphrodite not been so set on looks! But she was the goddess of love and beauty, so she had a natural preference for glamour. And who should she

set her sights upon but Ares, the dashing god of war? Ares, though he was extremely handsome, was also vain and bloodthirsty. According to the myth, Ares and Aphrodite conducted an infamous affair. When Hephaestus found out, he angrily humiliated them both before all the other gods.

If only Aphrodite had learned that "beauty is in the eye of the beholder"! Then she would've known to judge people (gods) based on personality, and stuck with Hephaestus. However, I am still hopeful for Aphrodite and Hephaestus as a couple. I think their story is quite interesting, because it demonstrates how the gods were extremely human in nature. Like many couples today, Aphrodite and Hephaestus have ups and downs in their relationship. But in the end, love will find a way!

ASHLEY CHOU, BLS

MYTHOLOGY COSTUME COUPLE: APHRODITE AND HEPHAESTUS



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CONVENTION

K14

WINCHESTER JCL AND LATIN STUDENTS ATTEND *FATHER COMES HOME FROM THE WARS*

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ALLIE
MULLANCRED:
ALLIE
MULLAN

After another snowy four-day weekend, the JCL and Latin students of Winchester High School buckled down for their first period back in class before heading right back out into the mounting snow drifts. Their odyssey: a field trip to see the play *Father Comes Home from the Wars* in Harvard Square. Despite weather-induced uncertainties regarding the train schedule, they arrived at the American Repertory Theater without a minute to spare and were privileged to an excellent show told in the style of Homer's *The Odyssey*. The three-hour-long play details the journey of a

Civil War Era slave named Hero faced with the choice to follow his misguided, alcoholic master to war. It is told in three parts: Hero's call to action, the war and his return home, and a focus on the effects that Hero's journey has on his identity and the lives of those he loves. The acting was poignant and convincing, combining the Homeric epic with a piece of American culture to create an equally thought provoking and humorous presentation. Highlights included the talking dog, "Odd-See," and the on-target acting by the entire cast.

ALLIE MULLAN, WINCHESTER

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SEND US YOUR
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SNAPCHAT, AND IT
MAY BE FEATURED!

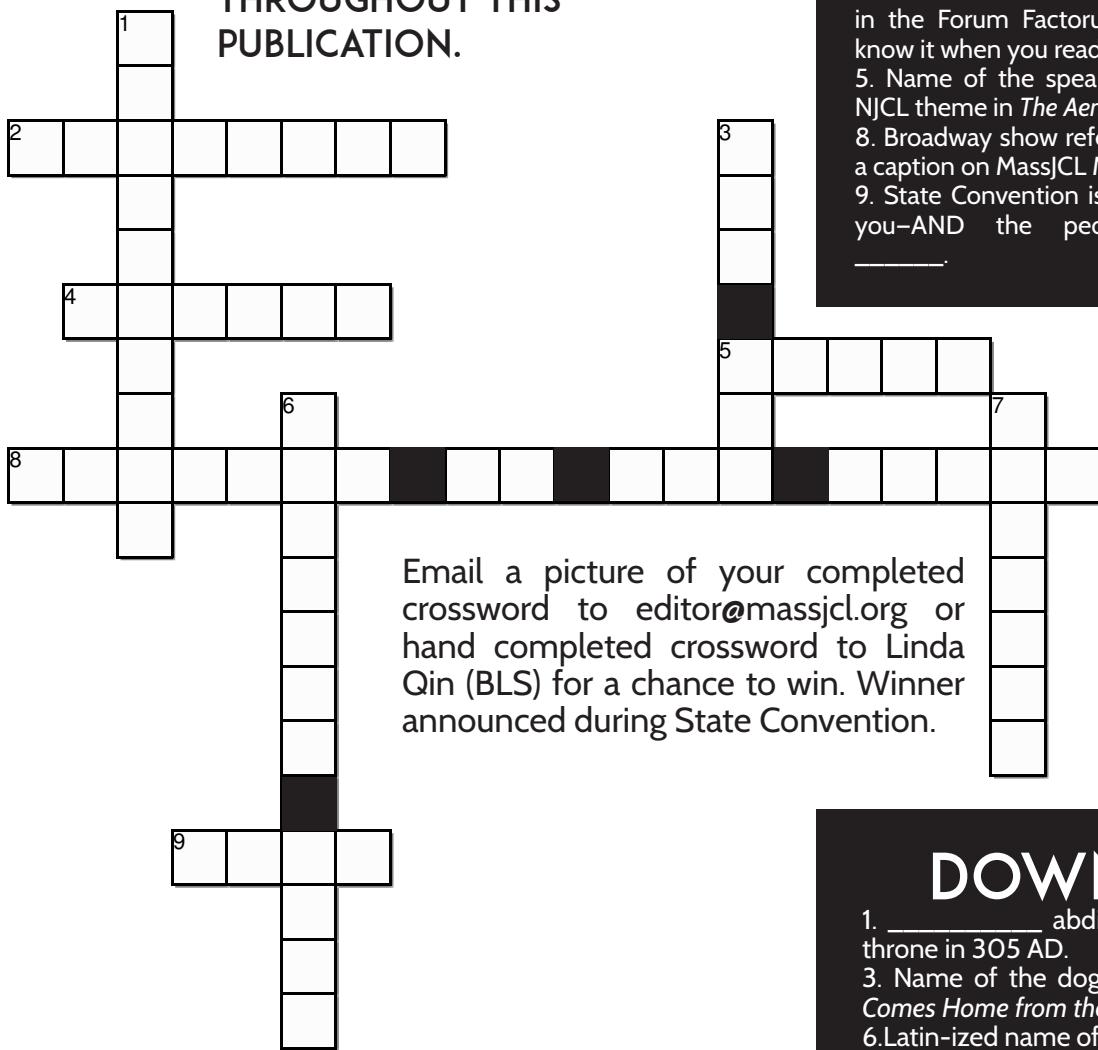


COWTULLUS COLORING PAGE
BY ADA CHAI, BL5

crossword.

**WIN A GIFT CARD
TO STARBUCKS!**

ALL ANSWERS FOUND
THROUGHOUT THIS
PUBLICATION.



Email a picture of your completed crossword to editor@massjcl.org or hand completed crossword to Linda Qin (BLS) for a chance to win. Winner announced during State Convention.

ACROSS:

2. Greek hero meets Avengers in this character, played by 1st VP Julia Pan during Classics Day
4. Answer found somewhere in the Forum Factorum... You'll know it when you read it. :)
5. Name of the speaker of the NJCL theme in *The Aeneid*
8. Broadway show referenced in a caption on MassJCL Moments
9. State Convention is all about you—AND the people you _____.

DOWN:

1. _____ abdicated the throne in 305 AD.
3. Name of the dog in *Father Comes Home from the Wars*
6. Latin-ized name of a song by Aerosmith
7. Language the spell *avada kedavra* is from

Roma Delenda Est

The Heart of Fall
has come again.
The height of war standing tall.
Stealing away into the day when
the scouts cross the bridge
to discover their enemies, eldritch.

The crosser of the Alps
marching on the Ticino
facing down the hollow
general of a man:
Scipio

As dawn and early morn bloom
the birds chirp along to the tune
of the carnage to unfold.
Behold!

The Mighty Carthaginian
with his bird of prey
prepared to pay
the Eagle of oh-great Rome
a fierce visit home.

And so the armies formed:
As horses joined the wings of war,
the Eagle became a hubris swarm:
“Carthago delenda est!” A Roman cries.

The battle ensued,
Rome and the great Scipios marched on
so unwise...

The wings of war beat a flurry
too fast for the javelins, thrown in a hurry

Scipio should have begun to worry
Instead he drove the cavalry
to the gallantry
of the end.

The swift-yet-sure-footed Numidian wings
hugging close her prey.
The Roman infantry swings!
Yet Hannibal always gets his way.

There was a hysteria!
One to be remembered for the millenia!
Africanus cries.
Scipio would surely say his goodbyes
Everyet, Scipio saves Scipio
from the claws
of Carthage.
Hannibal caws
his victory:
“The Fall of Rome!”

And so, in the Heart of the Fall,
when the height of war still stands tall,
Hannibal has bite to his bark.
An echo screeches through the stark
Halls of History:
“Roma delenda est...” Hannibal had cried.

- Skylar Cobbett
Rising Tide

ART AREA

18

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BLSJCL CERTAMEN THEME

CRED: MS. MOGUEL



SPOTLIGHT SHINES ON NOVICES DURING BLA FINALS



"MASQUERADE!
PAPER FACES ON PARADE!"

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A TWINNING TEAM IS
A WINNING TEAM

MASSJCL MOMENTS

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VERY PARTICULAR ABOUT
FLYER ARRANGEMENT

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THEIR CERTAMEN ON TOO



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MAXIMAS!
AS ALWAYS, THANK YOU FROM MASSJCL



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