



Forum Factorum



Volume XXXVIII, Issue 4 ~ The Official Publication of the Massachusetts Junior Classical League ~ March 2013



Photo: 1st Vice President Maddie Kilgannon welcomes you to Classics Day.

The Arts of Ancient Greece and Rome

*Kayla Dill
Lunenburg High School*

There can't be a better way to end a successful and extremely enjoyable 2012 MassJCL year than to hop on a bus into bustling Boston to attend Classics Day. Classics Day is a little bit of competition, a little bit of learning, and a whole lot of fun! I still have fond memories of that familiar hall in Boston University, bustling with people I didn't know the names of, but I knew we shared something: a love of the Classics and the company of others like us.

As someone who has a deep love of all things art, I was full of excitement for the day ahead. Professor Steven Scully, the head of the Classics department at BU, gave a warm welcome. This was followed by an absolutely fantastic speech to start things off, recalling Aeneas and his adventures, how he sought the Golden Bough, reminding us of the beauty and value of art, ancient and modern! With an applause and wave of the hands, it was time for the workshops. This year had a wide selection of interesting subjects, from classic archaeology, to poetry and prose, to European Renaissance, to the ever famous spectacle of theater. I enjoyed the fact that there were workshops to teach and assist in the art of scrapbooking and photography, too, which were helpful for new and nervous historians, or historians-in-the-making!

With a delicious lunch in our bellies, the excitement began to grow once more, as the ever famous skit competition had begun! Each chapter put forth their most valuable competitors in the re-telling of great classic stories, or the presentation of something new, and as always there was someone with the daring parodies of pop culture references. At the end of the ruthless battle, through laughter and lack of enough microphones, Boston Latin School reined superior, taking victory with help from Gagnam Style. But Boston Latin Academy stood strong in second place, proving they too were worthy of praise. All, however, left with the recognition that they worked hard, and received their own special awards.

Classics Day is one of my most anticipated JCL events. My first exposure to all of this madness was at a Classics Day in 2010, so many years ago, when Lunenburg's own Grace Thomas stood strong on that stage. I have to say, this was my absolute favorite Classics Day yet, and as a senior, it means a lot to save the best for last. Maddie Kilgannon did an incredible amount of work, and it definitely paid off. It was amazing! So now, wherever I may travel, I take with me the warmth of The JCL community and the beautiful knowledge I have collected over all this time. The drive and ambition of those who care to keep alive the long gone civilizations of Greece and Rome are inspiring and, similarly to what we study, legendary.



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Photo Credit for this Issue:

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Table of Contents:

Classics Day Workshops.....pg 3
 AMSA Certamen.....pg 4
 'Did You Know That?'.....pg 4
 Chapter Updates.....pgs 5-6
 'Ask Pythia'.....pg 7
 Contest Deadlines.....pg 7
 Classics Day Photos.....pg 8

Running for State Office



Salve, MassJCL!

Your Parliamentarian, Emma, here to talk to you guys about running for office. As we all know, and have seen in the past, running for office is quite the affair within JCL, and as Parliamentarian, running candidacy is my main job. Now, I know that running for office can seem intimidating; just the idea alone of how much the officer's handle can be scary, but let me tell you that the benefits far outweigh any of the burdens.

Being a MassJCL officer is more than just "giving back to MassJCL," which I know many of us cite as our main reason for running; being an officer is having an opportunity to better an organization that we have already committed so much time and effort to. Haven't you ever had an idea of how to help things run more smoothly? Or maybe an event that you think would just be perfect for all of us Latin nerds? Or perhaps you just really want people to understand how strongly you feel about being a part of MassJCL? Then running for office is just the thing for you. There is no specific type of person who is the perfect officer; have no fears that you won't be good enough or that you aren't like previous officers so you won't stand a chance. By becoming an officer you are bringing your skill set into a group where everyone has their own unique skills, and together you create an Executive Board capable of running our great organization. If you like spirit, run for office; if you like law, run for office; if you like creating newsletters, run for office; if you like typing, run for office; if you like organizing events, run for office. I hope that every single member of MassJCL considers this an invitation to run for office in this upcoming election. Just like our Executive Board is ever changing, so is MassJCL itself. I can go on and on about how great it is to be an officer, and how you become such close friends with people who otherwise you may never know, but you will truly never know unless you try. So run for office this year, and see if a MassJCL office is right for you.

Hope to be hearing from you soon,
Emma McMahon
MassJCL Parliamentarian 2012-2013

Letter from the Editor



Salvete MassJCL!

Welcome to the first issue of the year 2013! This issue will show Classics Day like you've never seen it before. You will get a chance to read select Workshop recaps as well as see a lot of photos from the day's festivities.

Also in this issue, you will get a chance to read what JCL Chapters have been up to this year. Some very important contest deadlines are mentioned and don't forget to check out this issue's "Did You Know That?" and "Ask Pythia" Columns.

With just one issue left until my term as Publications Editor is over, I would like to remind you that if you are a Chapter Editor and you want to enter the Newsletter competition at State Convention, your submissions are due to me by **April 1st**. This requires you to email me one digital copy and mail me three hard copies.

If you would like to write an article for next issue about Snowball, Certamen tournaments, or 'Did You Know That?' please feel free to email me at editor@massjcl.org. Until next time, keep it *classy* MassJCL!

E corde,
Joana Jankulla
MassJCL Publications Editor 2012-2013

State Convention registration is due March 27th

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Classics Day Workshops!

Learn To Scrapbook!

*Ava Violich
Boston Latin School*

Let me begin by saying that running my workshop at Classics Day was a fantastic experience! It was amazing getting to see everyone enthusiastic and interested in scrapbooking, and to see so many new faces from all over the State. Initially, I was worried about whether or not my workshop would be interesting—would people want to come to a workshop about scrapbooking when there were other options like Making Monsters? But in the end there was an excellent turnout and it really made me happy to see that MassJCL's future will continue to enjoy and carry on the tradition of scrapbooking. I walked away from the workshop feeling confident that a strong core of Historians will be there to take my place next year.

I began preparing for the workshop about a week in advance, and put together a PowerPoint presentation to more clearly outline the steps and processes involved in making a scrapbook. After outlining my "plan of attack" for scrapbooking, I went through where and how to buy materials. When the PowerPoint was finished, I passed around some winning scrapbooks from past years for people to look at. It was really great knowing that I helped inspire people to create their own scrapbooks! I heard some students discussing making their school's first scrapbook as I left, and knowing that I had influenced them, even if it was only showing them the ropes of scrapbooking, to help create the first generation of JCL Historians was a really special feeling. To all reading this who attended my workshop: I loved meeting each and every one of you, and thank you so much for coming! I hope you enjoyed the workshop as much as I enjoyed teaching it!

"So, you're basically Indiana Jones?" Classical Archaeology in the 21st Century

*Taylor Mckinnon
Boston Latin Academy*

I can't say I've ever seen any of the Indiana Jones film series. I have been able to draw a connection between it and the guy in Temple Run, though. That being said, I had some sort of response to the "So, you're basically Indiana Jones?" option on the workshop choice list. To be fair I immediately thought, "Isn't Shia Leboief in that movie?" When I finally went to the workshop, with my sacred coffee in hand, I was happy that Sarah Rous, our instructor for the period, integrated several hilarious clips of Harrison Ford into her lessons. I like Harrison Ford; he makes archaeology look good. On top of that, I

learned such a great deal about the several processes and rules of archaeology that my respect for this occupation not only rose, but I no longer confuse it with 'paleontology without the dinosaurs.'

It was great to conclude the workshops of my first Classics Day with such an informative and engaging piece, as well as interesting to say the least when all of the other workshops I had shown interest in were about Vergil or the *Aeneid*. The greatest thing about this workshop, other than the shared laughs with my fellow seniors, the coffee and the great food I had previously enjoyed, was that I finally learned how to spell "archaeology."

Virgil in Art and Music

*Alex Kim
Boston Latin School*

This year was my very first Classics Day. When I was signing up for Workshops, the one that stuck out to me was Virgil in Art and Music. It was delivered by the renowned Professor Richard Thomas. He analyzed Virgil's *Aeneid* and showed numerous examples of how it influenced art and writing throughout history. Even a single moment from the epic, the death of Laocoon, became an iconic image that would be found throughout history and even in modern times. What I found most striking, though, was Bob Dylan's use of lines from the *Aeneid* among other works. Little did I know that Bob Dylan's work was so steeped in classical references. Professor Thomas's lecture proved that literature and art truly transcend time itself.

Islamic Contributions to the European Renaissance: The offspring of Aristotle's Children

*Georgie Contreras
Boston Latin Academy*

For my first session, Dr. Ron Bruce White gave his workshop on the Islamic Contributions to the European Renaissance. Having heard him speak at a workshop for BLA, I knew beforehand that this talk would be full of genuine ideas, interesting facts, and a new spin on the Classics. And that's exactly what we got! Dr. White gave us background information on the Middle East before diving into the Golden Age of the area. Achievements in math, science, and especially the arts, would be incorporated into the culture of Greeks and, later, Romans- which would ultimately influence the European Renaissance. White's workshop was an insightful look at the contributions of Muslim civilization to the Classics.

Advanced Math and Science Academy Certamen Tournament

Hannah Seriac
Advanced Math and Science Academy

It was 7:20 AM on a cold and snowy December 1st winter day but it was more than just an ordinary Saturday; it was AMSA's 2nd Annual Certamen tournament! After setting up the buzzers in the rooms, I went downstairs to study with my teammates for a while. Teams arrived faster than Epeius can run a mile! After catching up with other schools, the tournament was sent underway by Meghana Vagwala and Amol Punjabi.

The preliminary rounds experienced at AMSA Certamen were unparalleled. The fresh, exciting, and well-written questions were certainly enjoyed by all and were a true test of the knowledge of a Certamen player. After preliminaries, my teammates Gregory Theos, Hope Clarimont, and Satwik Mekala and I lost in the semifinals. Each of my teammates put forth effort of such high caliber and I could not be more proud of each one of them. Merely minutes after semi-finals, finals began! Novice finals were very fun to watch and BLS 1 came out with the win. In Intermediate Finals, AMSA 1, BLS 1, and BLS 2 battled it out for a first place win. While all three teams did amazing, BLS 1 came on top with the win. Advanced finals were as intense as ever. After the hard fought battle, BLA came out with the win.

Even though AMSA only had one team in finals, it still was an amazing tournament. I would like to thank all of my intermediate teammates; Amol, Timothy, Katie, Ashwin, Anton, Hope, Satwik, Matt, and Greg. Each and every one of you inspires me in your own special way, I love you all so much and you are the best teammates/friends I could ask for. A special thanks to Ms. Sinacola who spent numerous hours working on this amazing tournament and is the reason for being able to have the tournament. Thank you to Meghana Vagwala and Rahi Punjabi who I know contributed their knowledge and time that really helped this tournament. A huge thank you to Amol Punjabi who organized this tournament; Amol could not have done a better job! Thank you, Amol, for making this one of my favorite memories and a lot of JCLer's favorite memories.

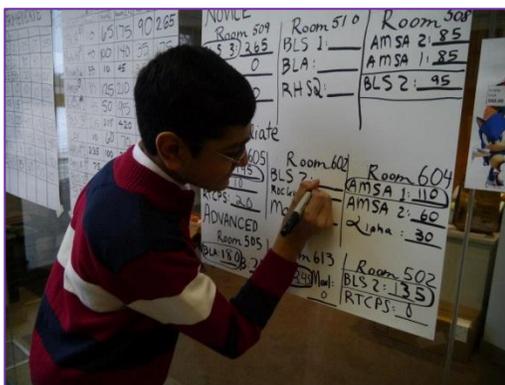


Photo: Amol Punjabi, event coordinator, recording the scores

Did You Know That?

Dalena Nguyen
Boston Latin Academy

Do you love mythology, and wish that it were in everyday life like Roman culture and PMAQ (phrases, mottoes, abbreviations, and quotations)? Well worry no more! There are mythology references nearly everywhere you go, and I mean nearly everywhere. Although mythology isn't obvious every day when you look at buildings and look at coins, it has a huge impact in the United States. Well the answer is the names of cities.

The most common mythology reference in city names is Athens. There are at least 15 cities in the United States that are named Athens. If you are wondering how Athens relates to mythology, then here's the answer: Athena is the patron of Athens when she won the contest against Poseidon. I'm not going to go into the whole story, but basically it explains why the olive tree is her symbol.



Another mythological reference is Arcadia. There are at least 10 states that have a city named after it. Arcadia relates to mythology because that's where Hercules had to go for one of his 12 Labors. He had to retrieve the Hind of Ceryneia, which took him an entire year to accomplish.



Photo: Heracles and the Cerynetian Hind

One final mythological reference in cities is... The Titan Atlas. There are over 20 cities that have Atlas or some form of it. One that we all know of is the capital of Georgia, Atlanta. Atlas is related to mythology because he's the one who holds the sky in mythology. Without Atlas, we may not be alive today, so no wonder there are so many cities named after him.



One more fact, although it is truly sad, there is one state that does not have any names that relate to mythology. Do you know which one? If you love mythology I suggest that you don't look it up.

Chapter Updates

Abby Kelley Foster Charter JCL

Abena Oworae

The Abby Kelley chapter of the MassJCL finds it hard to believe, but half of the 2012-2013 school year is gone. In September, we made our school presence known at the fundraising event showcasing all of our school's extracurricular activities. The event is called "Taste of Abby Kelley". In October, we attended the Catapult Contest Kick-off event at Mount Greylock. That wonderful event set the stage for our years' experience. In November, we operated a booth at our school's fall festival. We did our best to spark a zeal for the classics in our youngest customers with Classics-inspired crafts. The school-based highlight of December was, of course, Saturnalia. Our middle school and high school divisions came together to commemorate the binding of Zeus and freeing of Saturn; we enjoyed dormice.

December was also the month in which we attended an excellent Classics Day. The MassJCL1st VP, Maddie Kilgannon, did a wonderful job putting the event together. We put on a play called "Dancing with the Gods" and enjoyed many fantastic workshops. It was a lot of fun. January was a time for planning, primarily for the state convention, but also for local events. The rest of the year will be undoubtedly as memorable and exciting as the beginning.



Photo: AKF JCL performing their Classics Day skit!

Advanced Math and Science Academy JCL

Shebati Sengupta

This year, AMSA JCL has been busy, working on community service events, workshops, and our annual celebrations. We had our annual pumpkin painting meeting back in October, with prizes awarded to the most astounding or creative, pumpkins. Some designs included a depiction of a stylized Greek woman, and one a collage of medieval monsters. We had a writing workshop in November, with a focus on journalism and creative connections. Together, we had fun playing games such as Taboo and Mystery Interview. Earlier that month, we had a wreath making workshop, where the entire club met to create beautiful wreaths with sparkly bows, pine cones, holly, and other decorations. After attaching some miniature scrolls with Latin quotes to

adorn the front; we donated the wreaths to the Marlborough senior center.

Then came December, and our 2nd Annual AMSA Certamen, as well as a Saturnalia party. Amol Punjabi, our first Vice President, spearheaded a successful event, with many chapters coming up to have fun and play Certamen. Saturnalia presented a fun get together for club members, featuring chocolate "doormice", Secret Saturn presents, and craft competitions. Greeting cards were also written, and sent to soldiers overseas. It's been an eventful year thus far, and we can only wait to see what the future has in store.

Barnstable High School JCL

Emma McMahon

As the New Year has begun and States is starting to creep up on us the Barnstable Chapter thought we would give you guys an update on how we've been doing since last year's State Convention. We are pleased to welcome the lovely Ms. Bauer into our chapter, as she has taken a position as a Latin teacher at the high school, as well as all of our new student editions. This year we have gained quite a few new members, including eighth graders who are now permitted to take Latin in the high school. Our greatest achievement this year so far has been the creation of our very own chapter sweatshirts. As we are all fans of ABC's The Walking Dead, we created Latin versions of the show's logo and motto and placed them on sweatshirts that not only promote the chapter within the school, but look AMAZING. We had a great deal of fun at Classic's Day, and are pumped to be hosting State Convention at our high school once again. It is our hope that we have an even larger number of attendees than ever before, and that everyone who does come enjoys the school as much as we do. And we definitely love having an event that doesn't require us to drive so far! We'll see you all at our home base come States!

Boston Latin Academy JCL

Daniel Rodriguez

The BLA Classics Club has had a great year so far, and we're pleased to announce that there is more to come! First off, the very first meeting of the board was near the end of August to prep for the coming school year. In the month of September we had had our first official board meeting of the academic year. Also, in September members participated in the Walk for Autism. In October members took part in the Walk for Breast Cancer and later that month volunteered at the West Roxbury police station. In November, members ran in the BLA spirit day showings. In December, BLACC members volunteered at the Trotter elementary school to read to

students. We also hosted "Sixie Saturnalia" to great success! Next, in January the BLACC hosted the BLA Certamen Forum. We also had our annual field trip to the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City.



Photo: BLA JCL at their annual Certamen tournament!

To end the month of January, we helped at a service during MLK day located at Northeastern University. In February we had our first ever "Make Your Own Latin Valentine" workshop.

Boston Latin School JCL

Connie Chang

So far, it's been busy yet satisfying for BLS JCL! In September, to kick off the year, we hosted a fundraiser: a book covering event. In October, we attended our school's club fair, gaining new members; and we put on our first ever Halloween photo contest! We also completed the National Service Project by trick-or-treating for UNICEF, and went trick-or-treating with a local non-profit organization to collect food for low-income workers.



Photo: BLS JCL trick-or-treating for UNICEF!

From October through November, we hosted another fundraiser, this time by selling Yankee Candles, and participated in the Charles River Cleanup with the Boston Latin Community Development Corps. In December, we had fun at Classics Day (and took first place in the skit contest! Hurrah!). We also caroled at the Boston Health Center, providing holiday entertainment for the senior residents.

To start the New Year on a bright note, we took part in Northeastern University's Service Day, where we completed service projects, and honored Martin Luther King Jr.'s legacy. We put on our third annual BLS Certamen Tournament in early February, and I had tons of fun writing the skit in the beginning.

We look forward to the coming months, and we hope to do more to serve our community, raise awareness about the classics, and celebrate Latin in a totally nerdy way!

Lunenburg High School

Sarah Houston

Lunenburg JCL has been focused on the future this year. With budget cuts and school rearrangement, we are concerned over the future of the Latin program in our school. Fewer and fewer children in the younger grades know about the exciting activities involved with our Latin Class and Club as the years go on. We are trying our best to publicize the fun and exciting aspects of our Latin curriculum to the 6-7th grades especially, and just spread the knowledge of what Latin is about to ultimately preserve the course in our school for a long time.

Among this main concern, we have also been enjoying JCL activities, like our annual Saturnalia party, the Certamen competitions, and everyone is excited for the upcoming Snowball. Recently in meetings we have redrafted our Constitution, and discussed possibilities for the Chariot Race at State Convention this year. Lunenburg JCL has been having a blast working together this year to make Latin fun and to spread the knowledge!

Mount Greylock Regional High School JCL

Pearl Sutter

The Mount Greylock JCL has been extremely busy this year! We have mixed in a few new ideas in with our traditions and so far they have worked well. This year Mount Greylock tried a new system of government with students in charge of various whole chapter contests such as publicity and community service, instead of using the tradition board system with a president, secretary, etc. The chair people have accomplished a lot, especially in community service where we have accumulated more hours now than we have had in the past few years combined!

Greylock also created new clubs for the upcoming National Mythology Exam and National Latin Exam that meet after school every Tuesday so we Greylockers can kick some Latin butt! Not only that, but our Certamen teams are working hard preparing for tournaments and State Convention. And on top of all that MGJCL hosted a very successful fundraiser in January so we can help bring even more Latineers to Convention!



Photo: MTG JCL is all smiles!



Ask Pythia



Pythia, what can I do to bring my Newsletters over the top?

Newsletters are all about keeping the reader informed, but also having fun with the articles. Make sure you have articles about events that went on but also articles that give the reader new pieces of information; for example, the "Did You Know That?" Column in the *Forum Factorum*. Lastly, make sure to always include pictures. *Bonam Fortunam!*

Pythia, I want to run for a MassJCL office, but I'm not sure which one to run for. How can I figure out what office is best for me?

Running for MassJCL Office is a big deal, so you need to be sure that you are ready for a lot of responsibility. Make a list of all your interests and see if any one of those interests matches up with a MassJCL Office. Do you like drawing or taking pictures? If so, run for Historian! Do you enjoy web design? Run for Webmaster! Are you spirited? Run for Second Vice President! Do you enjoy anything to do with law, or order? Run for Parliamentarian! The possibilities are endless. *Bonam Fortunam!*



Contest Deadlines and Reminders

Due April 1st either by mail or email:

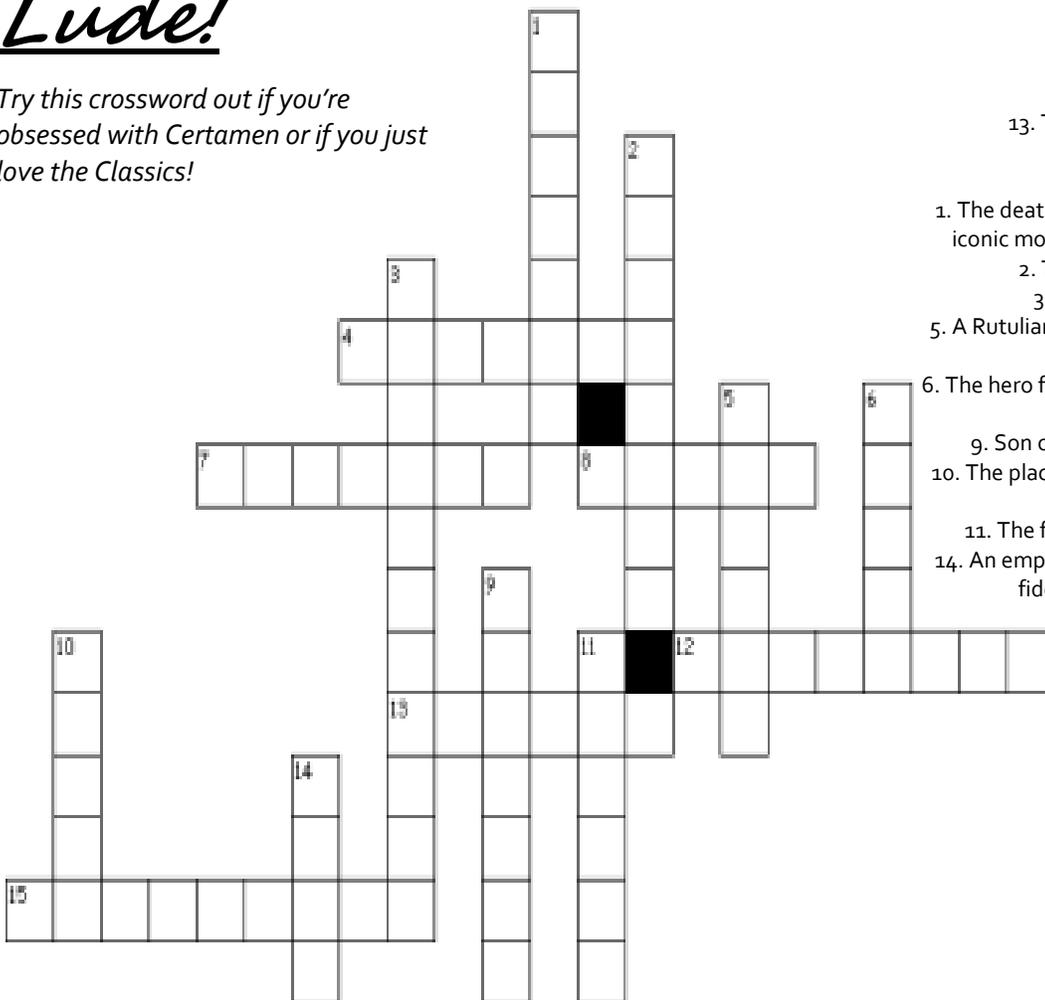
- Candidacy Forms
- Creative Writing Submission
- Multimedia
- Newsletter
- Publicity Binder
- Scrapbook Bonus Points
- Website

**check massjcl.org for official rules*



Lude!

Try this crossword out if you're obsessed with Certamen or if you just love the Classics!



Across

4. The first king of Athens
7. The first king of Rome
8. The mother of Aeneas
12. First emperor of Rome
13. The name of the Oracle of Delphi
15. Epithet of Penelope

Down

1. The death of this Trojan from Virgil's Aeneid is an iconic moment even today in the modern world.
2. The son of Laertes and Anticleia
3. Fought the Chimera and won
5. A Rutulian who fights Aeneas in single combat but loses
6. The hero from which we get the name of the capital city of Georgia
9. Son of Faunus and Marica, ruler of Latium
10. The place from which the Sibyl which led Aeneas to the Underworld is from
11. The first name of the author of the Aeneid
14. An emperor of Rome that supposedly played his fiddle as the city went up in flames

MassJCL: Keeping it *Classy*



Photo: Time for the Lunenburg Skit!



Photo: All smiles from Franklin JCLers!



Photo: Santa Claus is coming to States!



Photo: JCLers are excited for Classics Day!



Photo: BLS is ready for their skit!



Photo: AMSA loves performing in skits!



Photo: BLA and their skit!



Photo: JCL is sweet! (Literally)



Photo: Mount Greylock's skit!



Photo: JCLers heading to their Workshops!

Upcoming Events

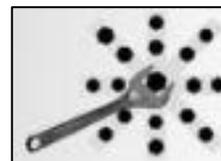
March 30th – Harvard University Certamen
April 1st – Newsletter, Publicity, Multimedia, Candidacy, Website, Scrapbook Bonus Points Deadlines
May 10th-12th – MassJCL State Convention

Gratias Vobis Ago!

On behalf of the MassJCL, thank you for providing your services and resources to this organization. We greatly appreciate it!



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



Mr. Hannigan at Merrimax Web Mechanics for the donation of the state and many local websites.



Fenton, Pinsonnault & Quinn, PC for their work with us in filing taxes. Ms. Keeley especially thanks you!