

Non scholae sed vitae discimus!



**MDJCL
TORCH**
MARCH 2025

McLean Open Certamen

TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Page I: | Cover Page |
| Page II: | February Torch and Lupercalia Winners |
| Page III: | March Section |
| Page IV: | Contest Highlight and Q.O.T.M. |
| Page V: | Activity Corner |
| Page VI: | State T-Shirt Design Contest |
| Page VII: | Flashback Corner |
| Page VIII: | State Convention Resources |
| Page IX: | Useful Links |

Missed the
February Torch?
Check it out here!



LUPERCALIA CERTAMEN WINNERS

| | Novice | Intermediate | Advanced |
|------------|--------------------|--------------------------|----------------------|
| 1st | Calvert (B) | Calvert | School Without Walls |
| 2nd | Key School | School Without Walls (C) | Easton High School |
| 3rd | Easton High School | School Without Walls (A) | Mala Mala |

PICK-UP LINE CONTEST

**“The future is like the 4th
Declension — all I can see in it is
‘us’.”**

-Johanna Pitts (Bryn Mawr School)

MARCH OPEN CERTAMEN

Schedule

| | | |
|-------------|-----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|
| 10:00-10:30 | Registration | |
| 10:30-11:00 | Icebreaker | |
| 11:00-12:00 | Open Certamen | Roman Fashion Lesson Led by Magistra Chicherio |
| 12:00-12:30 | State Convention Q&A Led by MDJCL Officers | Certamen Question-Writing Workshop Led by Magistra Mitchell |
| 12:30-1:15 | Lunch | |
| 12:30-1:15 | Gladiator Fight Led by Dr. Cranford | Dramatic Interpretation Workshop Led by Magister Moore |
| 2:00-2:30 | Awards and Farewell | |

MARCH FAST FACTS

Named “Martius” after Mars, March was originally considered the first month of the year, and contained a number of festivals.

- **Kalends (March 1st):** Sacred, perpetual fires were renewed at the Temple of Vesta to mark the new year.
- **Ides of March (March 15th):** Beware the Ides of March! Julius Caesar was assassinated at a Senate meeting on this day in 44 B.C.E.
- **Tubilustrium (March 23rd):** Ceremony involving the sacrifice of a ewe to commemorate the start of the army’s campaign season. The Salii (priests of Mars) introduced by King Numa Pompilius) processed through the city, potentially from March 1st-March 24th.

This is Maryland’s first-ever Open Certamen, so there are no past winners! Go make some history!

CONTEST HIGHLIGHT

State Officer Elections

It's that time of year again... Officer Elections are just around the corner! If you want to make an impact on the MDJCL and develop your leadership skills, consider running for Office during State Convention!

The Officers consist of a President, Vice-President, Parliamentarian, Archivist, and Editor. For information on their duties, and on Elections in general, check out the Campaign Corner put together by Finn, this year's Parliamentarian and pages 6-7 of the Convention Packet! Both of these resources will be linked on the State Convention Section of this Torch.

During State Convention, Candidates running for Office have to bring in a poster, answer questions from both the current Officers and other Convention attendees on-stage during Meet the Candidates, and give a short speech (less than two minutes) about their platforms and qualifications.

Running for Office can seem quite daunting, but trust me -- it's totally worth it!

Election Deadlines

By March 24th: Indicate which Office you're interested in running for on the State Convention registration Google Form (found on the MDJCL Website).

By March 31st: Email Magistra Kunz (ikunz@talbotschools.org) a short paragraph responding to one of the prompts found on Page 7 of the State Convention Packet.

By April 5th: Prepare (and practice!) your speech, create your poster, and bring a copy of the form found on Page 7 of the Convention Packet (make sure to get it signed by a parent and your club advisor/teacher).

Bona fortuna! You've got this!

QUOTE OF THE MONTH

**“Nec Veneri tempus quam ver erat aptius ullum:
vere nitent terrae, vere remissus ager,
nunc herbae rupta tellure cacumina tollunt,
nunc tumido gemmas cortice palmes agit.”**

**“And no time of the year was better fit for Venus than spring
In spring the lands shine, the fields are tender in spring,
The grains raises its heads through the broken earth
And the shoot drives its buds in swollen bark.”**

-Ovid, *Fasti* 4.125-128

ACTIVITY CORNER

CLASSICAL WOMEN CONNECTIONS

HORTENSIA

MAESA

CLEOPATRA

POPPAEA

METELLA

MAMAEA

ZENOBIA

SAPPHO

HYPATIA

RUFILLA

PANDROSION

DOMNA

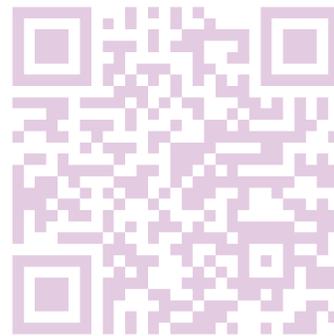
TEUTA

LUCIA

SOAEMIAS

BOUDICCA

**Play Online
+
Check
Answers!**



STATE T-SHIRT VOTING

Every year, all State Convention attendees receive a Maryland State T-Shirt based on this year's National JCL Theme "Non scholae sed vitae discimus" ("We learn not for school, but for life") and designed by an MDJCLer. This year, four students submitted designs. Check the designs out here, and vote for whichever one you'd like to be chosen!



Vote for your favorite design here!

Up next...

STATE CONVENTION

April 5th and 6th, 2025

Theme: Oracles and Prophecies

Held at Easton High School, State Convention is the biggest (both in terms of variety of activities, and length -- it's two days!) event on the MDJCL calendar!

- **Certamen:** Unlike all other Certamina, Convention Certamen happens in two parts. On April 5th, all teams compete as usual. The next day, the three teams in each Level (Novice/Intermediate/Advanced) with the most overall Points play one round against each other on-stage, in front of the rest of the MDJCL. The winners are then determined by the scores in these rounds alone.
- **Colloquia:** Choose from a range of activities and workshops to attend. Information on specific Colloquia can be found in the State Convention Packet!
- **Arts Contests:** Submit classics-related artwork in a number of categories!
- **Academic Testing:** All attendees will have 45 minutes to take multiple-choice tests on topics such as Vocabulary, Derivatives, Mythology, and more!
- **Ludi:** Compete in Ultimate Discus, the Golden Apple Race, Capture the Helen, and Gladiator Fights!
- **Elections:** Select the 2025-2026 MDJCL Officers!

And so much more... check out the State Convention Packet for an even more thorough list!

FLASHBACK CORNER

| | Novice | Intermediate | Advanced |
|------------|--------------------|--------------------|------------------------------|
| 1st | The Country School | Easton High School | Gilman |
| 2nd | Calvert (A) | Key School | The Bryn Mawr School |
| 3rd | Calvert (B) | Gilman | Eleanor Roosevelt Highschool |

STATE CONVENTION RESOURCES

Fill out this Google Form by March 24th to register for State Convention!



This Convention Information Packet includes everything you need to know and more!



Since many people stay overnight in a hotel for the night of April 5th, here's a

Packing List *(Put together by Johanna Pitts of the Bryn Mawr School)!*



If you're interested in running for Office, check out this Campaign Corner full of information and tips!

(Put together by Finn Merrick of Easton High School)



*Got something to share?
Submit to the Torch here!*



*Join the N.J.C.L. Google Space to
stay updated on news and
events!*



*Read the Spring 2025 National
Torch here!*



*Latin lesson plans students can
use to help engage younger
students in the classics!*

