



The MDJCL

TORCH

January 2026 - Gilman Hibernum Certamen!



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Upcoming/Thank You

INTRODUCTION:

Felicem Novem Annum!

Salvete!! Happy 2026, or MMXXVI as the Romans would call it! It's crazy to think that we're already halfway through our major MDJCL events for this school year... here's a quick recap of the where we've been so far and what's to come:

September

UMD Olympika
Certamen



November

Walters Art Museum
Scavenger Hunt

December

Calvert Saturnalia
Certamen



January

Gilman Hibernum
Certamen

You are here!

March

McLean Open
Certamen

It's been an amazing four months, and I can't wait for the next few! As always, if you have any questions about the Torch, or any suggestions for what you'd like to see in the next edition, feel free to email me at gourabb@brynmawrschool.org. I look forward to seeing more of your amazing art and ideas :]

April

State Convention
at the Key School



Ad Astra!

Event Schedule:

10:30-11:00

Event Registration

11:00-11:30

Introduction and Icebreaker

11:45-1:00

Certamen

1:00-1:35

Lunch

1:45-2:15

Teacher Certamen

2:15

Awards and Farewell

Checking In...

January Instagram Contest:



DEADLINE: 1/31

Keep an eye out for the winners and the announcement for next month's contest!



@maryland_jcl

National Torch Submissions:



DEADLINE: 2/13

Submit articles, answers to This or That, questions, advertisements, etc.

Visit bit.ly/springtorchsubmissions2526 for more details on how to submit!



@nationaljcl

Saturnalia Certamen Winners

Advanced

1st: Easton High School



2nd: Bryn Mawr



3rd: Gilman

Intermediate

1st: School Without Walls



2nd: Gilman



3rd: Calvert

Beginner

1st: School Without Walls



2nd: Calvert

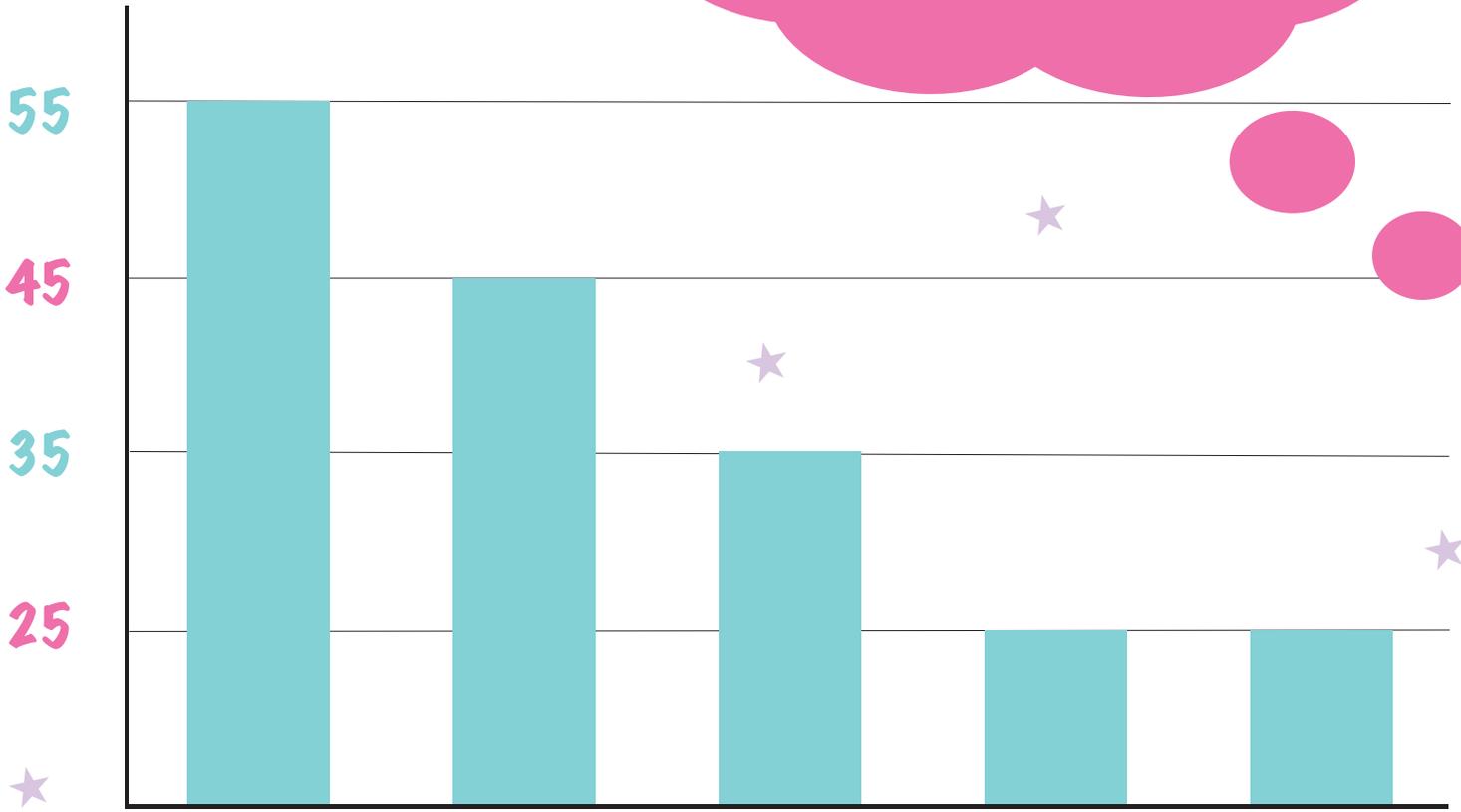


3rd: Country School

SPIRIT STANDINGS:



Questions about Spirit?
Visit mdjcl.org or contact our
Vice President, Johanna Pitts!



Bryn Mawr

Easton

McLean

Calvert

Gilman

 **15 points:** Boys Latin, Key School

 **10 points:** Dulaney, St. Tim's, Country School Loyola, School Without Walls

Ask MDJCL!

Do you have a favorite Latin word
OR a favorite Latin derivative?

My favorite word is Carmen, Carminis, N.! As somebody who's interested in both creative writing and singing, I'm quite fond of the fact that it can be translated to mean both 'song' and 'poem'!

- *Sophia Kantsevoy, the Bryn Mawr School*

The Odyssey, the Iliad, or the Aeneid?

100%

A Resounding Aeneas
Victory?!



*Meme created by me, mourning
the Odyssey*

Mythological Characters and Creatures Bracket!

THE FINAL ROUND - vote *here!*



1 Ariadne 3

16 Medea ✓ 4

9 Charon 1

8 Vesta ✓ 6

5 A Flock of Maenads ✓ 7

12 Polyphemus

13 Lioness(PyramusandThisbe)

4 TheSun(DaedalusandIcarus) ✓ 7

3 Ovid 3

14 Catullus ✓ 4

11 King Priam ✓ 5

6 Commodus 2

7 Aeneas 2

10 Daedalus ✓ 5

15 Fama ✓ 5

2 Lernean Hydra 2

16 Medea ✓ 4

8 Vesta 3

5 A Flock of Maenads 2

4 TheSun(DaedalusandIcarus) ✓ 5

14 Catullus 3

11 King Priam ✓ 4

10 Daedalus 3

15 Fama ✓ 4

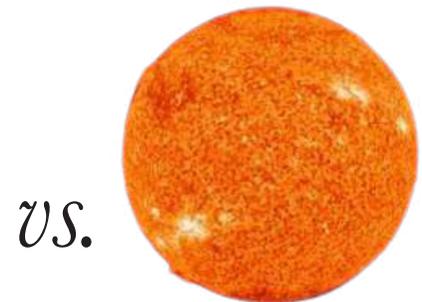
16 Medea

4 TheSun(DaedalusandIcarus) ✓ 3

11 King Priam 1

4 TheSun(DaedalusandIcarus)

15 Fama



vs.



SPECIAL FEATURE:

MDJCL Offices

Though State Convention is still a few months away, its never too early to start thinking about whether or not you want to run for one of the five MDJCL offices, especially because the deadline to submit your candidate forms is often earlier than April!

Thinking of running but unsure of what each position does? Though their roles are all outlined in the wonderful MDJCL Constitution, I figured it couldn't hurt to throw in a little crash course... just on the very slight chance you haven't read the MDJCL Constitution for yourself...

Still Confused?

Don't worry! This is just the first of many reminders about statewide elections. If you have any questions about a position, or want to know more about what its like, feel free to contact any of the current officers!

President

The President is in charge of recruiting new chapters and leading board meetings.

Vice President

The Vice President oversees everything related to spirit and community service.

Parliamentarian

The Parliamentarian is in charge of proposing new amendments to the MDJCL Constitution, as well as state elections.

Historian

The Historian manages the Instagram, photographs events, and makes the MDJCL Scrapbook.

Editor

The Editor creates the Torch and manages submissions.

What's Upcoming?

CLASSICALIA 2026 CLASSICS IN THE MODERN WORLD SCHEDULE

2:00-2:10: Opening
 2:10-2:20: Student Speaker #1: The Hippocratic Oath, From Birth to Present
 2:20-2:55: Gareth Hinds: Adapting Epic Poetry as Graphic Novels
 2:55-3:15: Digital Card-Making Activity
 3:15-3:50: Matthew Simonton: Ancient and Modern Politics
 3:50-4:10: Classics-Themed Drawing Game
 4:10-4:45: Patrick Burns: Using A.I. to Create Latin Resources
 4:45-4:55: Student Speaker #2: Mapping Semantic Fields to Translate the Untranslatable
 4:55-5:00: Closing

Classicalia 2026:

1/31 from 2:00pm-5:00pm

- ★ Guest speakers Gareth Hinds, Matthew Simonton, and Patrick Burns
- ★ Two Student Speakers - INCLUDING VIVIEN WANG FROM MDJCL!
- ★ bit.ly/Classicalia26

2026 MDJCL T-Shirt Contest:

Deadline: 3/6

- ★ A chance for your artwork to be featured on the MDJCL 2025-2026 T-shirt!
- ★ Must include the NJCL theme, "Concordia parvae res crescunt"



Google Forms to Know:



Submit your
MDJCL T-Shirt
Design!

DUE MARCH 6TH

Suggest a
Constitutional
Amendment!



RSVP for
Classicalia 2026!

SAVE THE DATE:

McLean Certamen!

Saturday, March 7th 2026

THANK YOU !

To everyone who submitted to the January Torch! Submissions for March will open soon, and once they do you can scan **this** QR code to get to the form!!



You can also access the link through the **MDJCL Instagram** (once it's posted) or at **mdjcl.org** under the **Archive** → **Torches** page!