



VOL. XII
ISSUE 1
FALL
MMXXIV

IN THIS ISSUE

- welcome (ii)
- recent events (iii)
- meet the officers! (iv)
- summer shenanigans (vi)
- camp athena (vii)
- extra: the 12 caesars (viii)

Salvēte, piscēs!

Welcome fishies!

This year we rejoice to swim in our *school* (haha) and *test the waters* together. The 2024–2025 VJCL Convention theme reminds us why we learn:

Nōn scholae sed vitae discimus.

"We learn not for school, but for life."

—Seneca, *Epistulae Morales ad Lucilium* 106

Why are we fish? "Give a man a fish and you feed him for a day; teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime." The things we learn in Latin—whether it's etymology that helps you decipher English words you don't know or that one random piece of information about a Roman author you can't seem to shut up about (Vergil likes bees!!)—stick with us for life.

These memories and lessons will both serve us and fill us with fondness for years to come. As your new *auctor*, I look forward to preserving them, and hopefully giving you something to smile about when you look back.

To passionate learning,
Sophia "Eris" Tzvetanov (2024–2025 LHS Auctor)

Thank you to my junior staff, Angela "Arria" Yan and Elisabet "Nike" Cabrera-Caballero, for all their help with the making of this issue. Thanks also to Sameeha "Aurelia" Shaik for the lovely extra featured on the back cover, as well as to everyone who contributed stories and photos.

If you'd like to contribute to the Scribe, reach out to Sophia Tzvetanov, Angela Yan, or Elisabet Cabrera-Caballero, and we can feature your work in the next issue!



Cover: AP Latin students celebrate Vergil's birthday with a reenactment of his naming ceremony.

Left: The magistrae show off their matching outfits.

Top right: Students pose outside in the evening during Nats.

Bottom right: Seniors gather around the Latin classrooms to have their togas tied for HOCO spirit week.



Ice Cream Social & Officer Elections: On Friday, September 13 (what an ominous date...), we held the Ice Cream Social and LHS Candidate Speeches. Many qualified students ran for office, and we enjoyed hearing their speeches during B-block. Congratulations to this year's winners! You can get to know the officers on page iv.

Latin Buddies Party & Program: On Monday, October 7, we had the Latin Buddy Party. All upperclassmen and underclassmen pairs got to attend a fun event with food, drinks, and games. The Latin buddy program is a great way for newer students to connect and learn from experienced mentors, or just to meet new people and make friends.

Myth Pumpkins: There was a great showing at the annual Myth Pumpkins 8th-period activity on Wednesday, October 23. Students painted and decorated a lot of cool pumpkins. Awards were given in categories such as funniest, most artistic, most abstract, and best overall.

Kickoff Certamen: The first Certamen tournament of the season, Kickoff Certamen, was held on Saturday, October 19. TJ did very well—here are the teams and their placements!

- Advanced C (2nd) - Ethan O'Hara, Aidan Wright, Sydney Buhler, Breanne Graham
- Advanced A (4th) - Alex Bakalov, Vivian Xue, Sarah Trainer, Philip Cho
- Advanced B (5th) - Vir Maniar, Sarah Kate Kangas, Dheethya Balaji, Samuel Payne
- Advanced (open) A (4th) - Bonna Koo, Yug Pathak, Sameeha Shaik, Mark Johnson
- Intermediate A (4th) - James Fleming, Caden Cosgrove
- Novice A (2nd) - Isha Stauber, Sophia Wang, Sara Fong, Eleri Healy

Latin League: New this year, the first Latin League competition took place on October 16, and will continue throughout the year. Students work in teams to complete tests in Latin and many other topics from the ancient world.

Convention: This year's VJCL Convention just took place on November 24–25. Look for a full recap in the next issue of the *Scribe*!



Left: Students get competitive while playing games at the first Latin buddy party of the year. Below: One Latin League team pores over test pages.



Myth pumpkins always bring a smile to our faces!



iv meet the officers

Meet the 2024–25 LHS Executive Board!

Here are a few of the questions I asked:

👤 What is your favorite Latin quote/saying?

🔥 What is your (Latin) hot take?

🏛️ What is your Roman Empire?

👀 What is one fun fact about yourself?

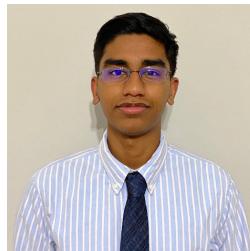
CONSULES



Rishabh "Brutus" Kumaran, 12, V

🔥 Latin is a dead language but that's okay.

👀 "I was ambidextrous when I was young."



PRAETOR MAXIMUS

Samuel "Dolorellus" Payne, 11, AP

👤 *Ōtium et rēgēs prius et bēātās perdidit urbēs – Catullus 51*

👀 "I work at a nature center"



PRAETORES MAGNI

Haasini "Theseus" Govindu, 11, III

👤 *Nūlum magnum ingenium sine mixtūrā dēmentiae fuit. – Seneca, De Tranquillitate Animi*

👀 "I am the #1 Procrastinator."



Mark "Marcus" Johnson, 10, III

🔥 Tarquinius Priscus was the best king of Rome...He was an engineering kid and you can't convince me otherwise.

🏛️ Planes. I like planes.



CENSOR

Breanne "Andromeda" Graham, 11, AP

👤 *Perfer et obdūrā, dolor hic tibi prōderit olim – Ovid*

🏛️ Track & Field



TRIBUNUS



Sarah Kate "Sappho" Kangas, 11, III

👤 *Ālis volat propriīs*

🔥 If Aeneas had time to carry his father on his back and lead a shipful of men away from Troy, he had time to find Creusa.



DOMINA TELAE

Medha "Venturia" Pappula, 11, AP

👤 *Audentēs fortūna iuvat*

🏛️ The shifting tech industry

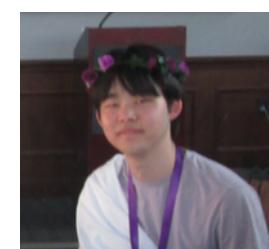
REGES ET REGINA CERTAMINIS



Alex "Marius" Bakalov, 12, V

🔥 Thermopolium

👀 "I held an unprecedented seven consulships from 107 to 86 BC!"



Philip "Philippus" Cho, 12, V

👤 *Cum tibi nec frāter nec sit tibi filiū ullus, frāter ego et tibi sim filiū ūnus ego – Propertius*

👀 "I whistle like a Disney princess"



Sarah "Iris" Trainer, 11, AP

🔥 Weird grammar rules are the best part of the Latin language

🏛️ The Seven Against Thebes (come on, who doesn't like infant doom-bringers and brain-eating?)

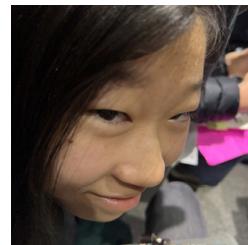
meet the officers

ARTIFICES



Anna "Psyche" Kim, 11, AP
🗣️ Tua Mater B)))
🔥 Aeneas would make a perfect shōnen anime protagonist

Anna "Daphne" Park, 11, AP
🗣️ Carpe diem crās
🔥 The Aeneid is just Vergil's Odyssey fanfiction



Rabia "Penthesilea" Chadha, 12, V
🗣️ Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet...
-Cicero
🔥 Caesar has a great writing style

Suzie "Alma" Han, 10, AP
🗣️ Aut viam inveniam aut faciam!
-Hannibal
🔥 Ablative running from fire is the only valid ablative construction.



EX-OFFICIO



Shaurya "Fabius" Jain, 12, VI
🔥 Catullus is a creep
🏛️ "ur mom haha (don't actually put this in the scribe, unless if u want to ig)"

AUCTOR

Sophia "Eris" Tzvetanov, 11, AP
🏛️ Preparing for the apocalypse
👀 "You might hear some Latin students call me "Piccola," a nickname I got in Italy."



Welcome from all the officers!

Fun fact: 3 different officers said that their Roman Empire is the Roman Empire :DD

Introducing our junior staff!

Magistri Certaminis: Sarah "Pallas" Park, Ethan "Scaevola" O'Hara, Peter "Felix" Beatty

Iuniores Auctores: Angela "Arria" Yan, Elisabet "Nike" Cabrera-Caballero
Fabra: Bonna "Bellona" Koo

Summer Shenanigans

Catching up on Nats and Gov School

This year's VJCL Convention theme is: "We learn not for school, but for life." One of the best things about the TJ Latin community is the genuine passion that we have for classics, and it shows in how students spend their summers.

Whether they were earning points for their province at Virginia Latin Governor's Academy or cheering on behalf of the Virginia delegation at NJCL convention, students learned not only for school—but for life.

Seniors Philip "Philippus" Cho and Eshwar "Augustus" Moorthy attended the Virginia Governor's Latin Academy (commonly known as "Gov. School") for a few weeks, learning not just Latin, but a variety of topics related to classics.

Cho recounts some of his classes, including ancient humor and a guest lecture on chemistry and art. Previously, he "never gave a thought to chemistry and



classics." The guest lecture, however, made him consider the connection between the two.

"The professor explained the compositions of all the colors used in antiquity, and it was fascinating," Cho says. He also had the chance to read Vindola tablets (Roman-era letters) excavated near Hadrian's wall, which according to Cho, "makes [the Romans] feel less 'legendary' and more relatable..."

For Moorthy, the excitement of Gov. School was "fighting other people." At Gov. School, students are divided into nine provinces, each consisting of five people. Through various activities, they try to win points for their respective provinces.

Part of this was through a fight between provinces, for which Moorthy was chosen to represent his province, Gallia. "I basically half-fought against somebody from Italia," Moorthy recalls proudly, "and I won, and I conquered them, and it was fun."

While Cho and Moorthy were in Ashland, Virginia, a larger group



of TJ students rode a bus to Knoxville, Tennessee, as part of the Virginia delegation at the NJCL Convention ("Nats").

Nats is a lot like state convention, but on a larger scale. It also gives students a chance to meet other Latin students from all over the country—and especially to bond with their fellow Virginia delegates.

The weather provided a bonding experience for senior Alex "Marius" Bakalov. Caught in a downpour, Bakalov ran across the entire campus with a "gaggle of friends." Although it might not seem like the most pleasant experience, Bakalov says he "wouldn't trade it for anything."

Whether you obsess over different uses of the subjunctive or you prefer to read about gory deaths in Roman history—or even if you just want to have a laugh about ancient humor—spending your summer engaged in the classics community is sure to leave a lasting impression.





welcome to...



Left: Bonna "Bellona" Koo and Sarah "Pallas" Park give a lecture on Latin pronunciation. Far left: Campers got the chance to make their own shields out of paper plates, decorated with Latin quotes!

camp athena



You may have seen fliers in the Latin rooms advertising Camp Athena—but what exactly is it?

Camp Athena is a camp for middle schoolers to learn more about Latin and classics in general, created by TJ Latin students Sarah Kate "Sappho" Kangas, Anna "Psyche" Kim, and Bonna "Bellona" Koo.

So far, the camp has met weekly for three weeks in October, hosted at Sherwood Regional Library. There, TJ Latin students led lectures on history and myth, as well as basic grammar and forming simple sentences. Each session also included a fun craft. Students who attended made laurel crowns and bullas, practiced Roman numerals using gummy worms, and wrote

Latin quotes on shields.

The founders want to stress that Camp Athena is not meant to be highly informational—its primary purpose is to promote Latin to younger students and encourage them to pursue Latin in high school and beyond.

"We're just looking to engage kids and show them how fun Latin is," Kangas explains. "It's helpful that we're all passionate about it... when you're enthusiastic about it, other people become enthusiastic about it."

The idea to start Camp Athena began after last year's Latin award ceremony. "I heard Mrs. Lister mention...that Latin and language enrollment in general was decreasing," Kim recalls. "It really saddened me because I love Latin

and I would hate for another Latin program to die because they have no more students interested in the language."

All three founders explain that their base schools only have small Latin programs—and numbers are decreasing.

They started Camp Athena in the hopes that younger students would become interested in classics, and revive Latin programs in the area. "It's not just about TJ," Kangas says. They hope to spread the program so that other communities can make their own chapters.

Camp Athena will be returning with virtual sessions over winter and spring break. There will also be another in-person camp next summer—spread the word!

extra

THE TWELVE CAESARS

As attested
by Suetonius!!!

AKA Gossip
and a good
storyteller

