



# NUNTIUS CALFORNIENSIS

**The Official Publication of the California Junior Classical League**

## Nationals in a Nutshell

*Rowan Biggs, Woodbridge High School*

National Convention this year took place in the humid, but wonderful, state of Indiana from July 25th to July 29th. The brave California delegates trekked some 1,809 miles to Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana for a week of unforgettable classical festivities. This was a momentous year for California. Kyle Smith-Laird received a Silver Bowl award for attending a whopping 20 national conventions. He reflected on his JCL experience with humor and appreciation: “While it took me thirty years to achieve a twenty year goal, I couldn’t be happier to have received an award from an organization that makes me want to be the best I can possibly be, an organization in which I grew up from JCLer to SCLer to ACLer, and an organization that has been the starting point of so many memorable friendships. *Eugapae et v’omnes amo!*” In addition to this personal triumph, the California delegation as a whole won spirit twice. Furthermore, all three levels of Certamen advanced to semi-finals under the leadership of Mr. Davis from Miramonte High School. Member of the HS-1 Certamen Team, Kiana Hu, reminisced that she, “formed a sort of bond with a group of teens who loved nothing more than to answer nerdy Latin questions and hyper-buzz when given a chance.” Equally important were the individual awards that many California schools received for their achievements.

Moreover, this was the first National Convention  
(continued on pg. 3)

### In This Issue...

- Nationals in a Nutshell.....1
- Ludi + SCRAM update.....2
- *Four Must See Ancient Sites in Rome*.....3
- Review of *The Aeneid*.....4
- Quote Corner.....4, 8
- SCL Update.....5
- Carpe Twitterum!.....6



**“I couldn’t be happier to have received an award from an organization that makes me want to be the best I can possibly be”**

Want to see all  
California’s glory and honor?  
go to

<http://www.njcl.org/pages/PreviousTestsKeys>,

- Click 1. “2016Conv”
2. “All results by state”
3. “California” for a full list of awards!

## Ludi Novembere 2016 Update

*Jordan Grelling, Northern Representative*

**P**icture your favorite Roman hero. Maybe it's Horatius Cocles or Mucius Scaevola. Maybe you're an admirer of Cincinnatus, Fulvia, or Cloelia. Maybe you even write fanfiction about Aeneas (don't be ashamed, that's essentially what Virgil's *Aeneid* is). What if I told you that there's a way to earn just as much glory as these Roman heroes, and you don't even have to fight off any Etruscans?

At Ludi Novembere, on November 12, 2016 from 8:30-4:30, Miramonte High School challenges you to earn (almost) as much glory as these heroes of yore! Show off your Latin knowledge in academic tests from Ancient Geography to Vocab,



**Northern CA JCLers mingling at Ludi 2015, Stanford University**

or test your wits and thumb muscles at Certamen for everlasting glory. Compete against the best in Dodgeball, Frisbee, or our (hopefully nonlethal) Gladiatorial Games! This year, Ludi will feature six workshops, hosted by Professors from UC Berkeley and UC Davis, as well as Miramonte's very own Magister Davis and Magistra Mullowney. Academic colloquium topics range from Greek Archaic poetry (especially Sappho!)

*(continued on pg. 4)*

## SCRAM 2016 Update

*Jack Sadoff, Southern Representative*

**S**alvete! SCRAM at Crossroads is coming up soon on Saturday, November 12th! Be prepared for an experience unlike any other SCRAM you have attended. And if this is your first SCRAM, we welcome you with open arms.



**Southern CA JCLers Roman speed dating at SCRAM 2015, University High School**

Manicured lawns, classical architecture, huge cafeterias and spectacular sports fields are all things that we... don't have. However, we will offer a full

program of activities with a few sports on our humble and unique premises, which surround an alley. Be ready for a day chocked full of Latin, the arts, Ludi, good food, and fun activities, like lunch time karaoke. We're offering several different, interesting workshops; some will be led by UCLA professors. We've booked In-and-Out, Kogi Korean fusion, and Shake Ramen trucks so everyone can look forward to a delicious meal; we'll also provide Vegan salads, and of course, we will have a snack bar full of tasty treats. *(continued on pg. 4)*

Did you know that a new CAJCL Board was elected at state convention last spring? Go to <http://www.cajcl.org/board.html> to meet the new officers!



**The whole CA Delegation before the last spirit competition, dressed for the theme of “E-I-E-IU”**

## Nationals in a Nutshell (continued from pg. 1)

for a large portion of the California delegation, but excitement pervaded their ranks more than nervousness. Carina Leung, then a sophomore attending her first Convention, said that she’s “never been more glad to step out of my comfort zone.” Nationals provided a daunting yet rare opportunity for Carina and others to meet other young classicists and create memories more lasting than bronze.

Delegate Zahra Hasanain met people from other states and “learned equally as much about the Romans as (she) did about modern Americans”. Venturing outside the “California Bubble” reminds us that America is just as, if not more, diverse than the Roman Empire was. Learning about how JCL chapters in other states were run provided valuable perspectives and ideas. From participating in the mosaic marathon to selling JCLove fanny packs at the Agora, there was never a dull moment at Nationals. True to the theme, “Ubi Concordia, Ibi Concordia”, California derived its strength from camaraderie. All delegates enthusiastically expressed their interest in attending the 2017 NJCL Convention at the University of Troy, Alabama, from July 24 - July 29th, with the theme of “Omnis ars naturae imitatio est”, or “All art is an imitation of nature.” If you want to find out more about National Convention, and all the thrill that comes with it, contact Second VP Grant Churchill at [secondvp@cajcl.org](mailto:secondvp@cajcl.org).

## Four Must See Ancient Sites in Rome

*Cybele Zhang, Archer School for Girls*

As summer memories slip away and school picks up speed, I can’t help but look forward to next summer already and one of my favorite things to do— travel.

For anyone with an interest in classics, history or art, Rome is the place to go. Here are four ancient attractions to see while roaming the eternal city.

### 4: Baths of Caracalla



Completed by emperor Caracalla in 216 A.D., these baths are huge. The structure is relatively well preserved, but many works of art have been moved from the site to museums. In its heyday, the baths could have held up to 1,600 bathers and served as not just a place to clean one's self, but as a social destination too.

### 3: Roman Forum



The cultural, religious, political and economic center of Rome is still as crowded as in Imperial times, but now it’s packed with tourists. A walk down the Via Sacra allows visitors to view ruins of various ancient  
(continued on pg. 5)



## Ludi Novemberes 2016 Update *(continued from pg. 2)*

to the life of a Roman Slave, to Roman mythology and history. In addition, we'll conduct a workshop on how to succeed in spirit competitions. Our last workshop will teach you how to more effectively get publicity points for your school's Latin club. We want all of California to sweep the publicity contest at Nationals this year!

In keeping with CJCL's commitment to community service, schools will be competing in a race to box canned food, and prizes will be awarded! Valete for now! We hope to see you at Ludi!

### Quote Corner!

*Feeling overwhelmed and miserable this fall? Not to worry! Vergil once wrote, "Forsan miseros meliora sequentur" (For those in misery, perhaps better things will follow)*

## SCRAM 2016 Update *(continued from pg. 2)*

We are creating a new Ludi game every week, so you can expect some novel games. Don't forget to bring canned goods for our food drive (cash donations will be accepted, if that is easier for you). The food will be donated to the Westside Food Bank.

We will also provide an opportunity for you to make paracord bracelets and write messages for Operation Gratitude. We can't wait to see you on November 12th. Until then, remember, SCRAM is right up our *alley*!

## Review of *The Aeneid*

**Maggie McCarty, Woodbridge High School**

There's something "marvelous" to be said about epic poetry: *Mirabile lectu*. Marvelous to read! Breathtaking, moving, and frankly, exciting as all heck. What would modern literature be without the most epic of these poems, Vergil's *Aeneid*?

They say there's only 7 kinds of stories in the world: "*Overcoming the Monster*", "*Rags to Riches*", "*The Quest*", "*Voyage and Return*", "*Comedy*", "*Tragedy*", and "*Rebirth*." *The Aeneid* would usually be put into "The Quest" category. Yet, in actuality, *The Aeneid* is all these plot types at some times and transcends them all at other times.

So gentle is Vergil in his speech, yet violent, lustful, and oftentimes terrifying in his narration. Insights into each man's deepest tribulations during their return from the Trojan War are so personal, yet universally applicable to an average person's daily pain and struggle. With some more empathy, it's possible to feel and understand the arduous trials Aeneas and his warriors face at an even deeper level. This is because Vergil effortlessly strings his vocabulary together in such a way that anyone can relate to the ultimate message of love and courage.

And when translated correctly, at its core, without stylish decoration, a reader can decipher Vergil's most magnificent story in its purest form. That's how I think the poem should be read. No fancy interpretations, just telling the story how it's meant to go. If I had to rate this story, I would give it 4.5 stars out of 5. The missing .5 stars are for the fact that sometimes, I can't forgive Vergil for his syncopation!



*Vergil reading the Aeneid to Augustus and Octavia by Joseph Taillasson*

## Four Must See Ancient Sights in Rome

*(continued from pg. 3)*

sites that fill textbooks: the Curia, Tabularium, Regia, Arch of Titus, and countless temples to name a few.

### 2: Colosseum



This former home of gladiatorial games, battle re-enactments and executions still evokes a sense of excitement and mystery. Construction on the amphitheater began under emperor Vespasian in 72 A.D., and was completed in 80 A.D. under his successor, Titus. The scale of the Colosseum is gigantic and allows visitors to truly feel the might of the Roman Empire.

### 1: Pantheon



The Pantheon has been in continual use, first as a Roman temple and now as a church, since its dedication around 126 A.D. by the emperor Hadrian.

The Pantheon boasts the world's largest reinforced concrete dome and is often acclaimed to be the world's only architecturally perfect building. It is the most complete ancient building in Rome and remains in spectacular condition. The building itself has a feeling of sanctity unlike any other place in Rome.

Enjoy your trip! After all, all roads lead to Rome.

## SCL Update

*Sydney Higa, CASCL President*

Hello California Junior

Classical Leaguers!

As the year begins, the spirit of the CAJCL is renewed by the convening of Classics students across the State. Throughout the year, not only will you engage in the teachings and traditions of the Classics within your own local chapter, but also with other chapters in your region and the state. From epic costume contests to climatic Certamen matches, along with riveting academic tests and zealous spirit battles, these Conventions represent a time to join as peers and realize your Classics potential.

As you engage in all these pursuits, your heart will be overwhelmed by your love for the JCL. You will begin to fret about the time when your JCL career will inevitably draw to a close, whether it be months or years away.

Forget your fears! We, the California Senior Classical League (CSCL), welcome you to continue your Classics journey. As the college-level affiliate of the JCL, we seek to ignite the same passion felt for the Classics in the heart of every CAJCLer!

*(continued on pg. 6)*

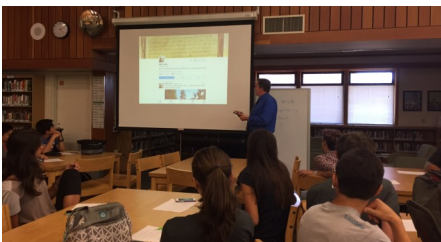
## Carpe Twitterum!

*Zahra Hasanain, Nuntius Editor*

**O** Tempora! O Mores! Why would Latin and Ancient Greek students ever want to indulge in something as modern as Twitter? The 9,896 lines of the Aeneid could never be condensed into 140 characters without losing their musicality and meaning. However, some of the Vergil's most beautiful lines, and certainly most of Horace's sharpest witticisms can be tweeted and retweeted until all different kinds of audiences realize the striking relevance of these ancient writers' eternal words.

In a polarized age, it's more tempting than ever to divide the universe into the virtual world of the present and the "authentic" world of antiquity. Consequently, we forget that a different outlet for understanding ancient times, and a whole new dimension of connections with the classical and outside world exists. We forget that Twitter is just as much for Divus Augustus than it is for modern cult personalities.

But Matt Davis(@magisterdavis1), Latin teacher at Miramonte High School, can attest to the fact that Twitter is an effective way to expose young and old alike to the wider classical world.



**Students learning about Twitter  
in Latin Class**

This is the second year he's assigned a Twitter project to his classes, in which all students have to tweet, retweet, and comment on articles, pictures, and anything else that relates, even obscurely,

to Ancient Rome or Greece. His enthusiasm for the project is unwavering because, "There's so much information about Latin and the ancient world on Twitter. In addition to that, Twitter offers the opportunity to interact with modern pioneers of the classics, and to build a community of students and teachers from all walks of life." Coupled with eager and open minds, Twitter becomes as useful a resource as any other scholarly tool.

*(continued on pg. 7)*

## SCL Update

*(continued from pg. 5)*

With our omniscience, omnipotence, omnipresence and indispensability, we will organize all Ludi and Olympika events, produce That's Entertainment at State, and provide all other expertise where needed. Moreover, we will form our own community for growth and camaraderie

On behalf of the California Senior Classical League, curate ut valeatis!

## #CJCL

### ON SOCIAL MEDIA

*The California Junior Classical League is all over social media!  
Check out our sites below:*

#### Twitter:

Follow @CaliforniaJCL  
(we have more followers than any other state JCL Twitter!)

#### Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/CAJCL>

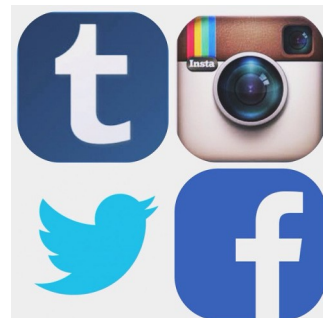
#### Tumblr:

<http://cajcl.tumblr.com/>

#### Instagram:

Follow: cajcl

**Website:** [www.cajcl.org](http://www.cajcl.org)





## Carpe Twitterum! *(continued from pg. 6)*

But until you cruise through the Twittersphere for yourself, it's hard to see how Twitter makes learning about Classical Civilization enjoyable, easy, and current. To get you started on the wonderful world of Twitter, here are four classical Twitter accounts you should absolutely follow:

### 5. Ben Johnson @latintutorial

A veteran Latin teacher and worshipped video maker, Ben Johnson is one of the only Youtubers worth subscribing to, and he's certainly an intriguing tweeter. Johnson uses twitter to post updates on his videos ("latintutorial" on youtube), exchange teaching methods, and comment on the latest classical news.

### 4. Mike Duncan @mikeduncan

Mike Duncan is a podcaster whose "History of Rome" series is world famous. He often compares America and Ancient Rome, drawing notable parallels and pointing out key differences. However, his tweets are easy to follow for everyone, not just history buffs.



A Midas meme from @rogueclassicist

### 3. Rogue Classicist @rogueclassicist

Probably the edgiest on this list, Rogue Classicist tweets classical memes, and every news story they can find about Greece or Rome. Their bio defines rogueclassicism as "an abnormal state or condition resulting from the forced migration from a lengthy Classical education into a profoundly unclassical world."

### 2. Sententiae Antiquae @sentantiq

This popular account provides Tweepers with a daily dose of classical wisdom through translations of lines from Ancient Greco-Roman texts. It's also an easy way to learn MQA. Quotes are tweeted in the original Latin and Greek, followed by the original English translation. Around holidays and other special times of year, the account tweets specially applicable quotes. During the most recent presidential debate, @sentantiq was constantly tweeting dictums by Cicero, as well as more obscure authors, providing a more insightful play-by-play than any of the modern commentaries on the debate. *(continued on pg. 8)*

## State Convention Update

**Carina Leung,**  
**Convention President**

Salvete omnes! Saint Ignatius is very excited to host the 62nd CAJCL State Convention on April 21st and 22nd of 2017. We're putting all of our hearts into making it a memorable one for all of you. We'll be celebrating the 2770th birthday of Rome, and it is sure to be a promising weekend full of Titan Games, Certamen, Glow-in-the-Dark mini golf, and much more! We can't wait to see all of you in beautiful San Francisco! For more information, go to [www.sijcl.com](http://www.sijcl.com)



**The '16-'17 Saint Ignatius State Convention Board**

## Carpe Twitterum!

(continued from pg. 6)

### 1. Mary Beard @wmarybeard

Mary Beard is already a hero to classicists and commoners alike. She tweets regularly, and scrolling through her feed is a reminder that she isn't just a legend, but a real person, willing to engage with others on matters of feminism, politics, Roman history, Latin literature, and plain old humor. Beard has even garnered the reputation of "troll slayer" because of the powerful way she deals with her rancid haters. Though judging by her tweets, she has a deep understanding of many fields, her bio is simply, "classicist." Just as Mary Beard can use Twitter to mix her different passions with classics, so can any JCLer.

**Ben  
Johnson!**



### Quote Corner!

*Still skeptical about Twitter? Then trust Seneca, who reminds us, "Veritatis simplex oratio est" (the language of truth is simple) 140 characters forces you to be simple and concise!*

## More Pictures from Nationals!



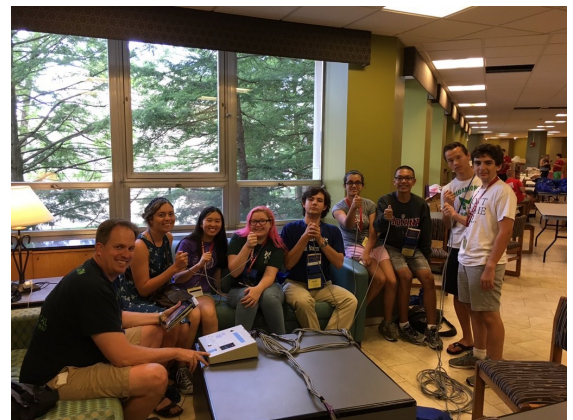
**CJCLers cheering during the Spirit Procession**



**Selling #JCLove fanny packs at the Agora**



**CA Delegation after the last state fellowship**



**Fearless certamenators practicing**