



# NUNTIVS CALFORNIENSIS

The Official Publication of the California Junior Classical League

## Maximas Gratias Vobis Ago

*Carina Leung, Convention President*

On behalf of St. Ignatius, I'd like to extend my deepest gratitude to all of you amazing JCLers. Thank you for being such wonderful guests and impressive delegates! You all brought your best to this Convention, whether it was through beautiful artwork, brilliant academic knowledge, the intense spirit of competition, or the warm sense of friendship and camaraderie. JCLers are truly a force to be reckoned with! Your love and dedication to the Junior Classical League and the Classics is remarkable, and we are forever grateful. *Maximas gratias vobis ago!*

I'd also like to thank Magistra Curcio and Magistra Sum, my two wonderful sponsors and fearless leaders of Convention. They have been the most supportive and dedicated teachers that anyone could ever ask for, and I don't know where I would be without them.

It's hard for me to pick a single favorite part of this big adventure. One of the first things that comes to mind is seeing everyone have fun. From the very beginning, we wanted to make this State Convention a memorable one for all of you, and I really hope we did. Since I could not personally make it to all of the activities, I loved seeing photos of all the events! I'm especially proud that you enjoyed our new activities, such as *(continued on pg 3)*

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Carina Leung (front left) and SI Convention Board



"I don't know where I would be without them"

L to R: Kyle Smith-Laird, Lana Sum,  
Grace Curcio, Martha Altieri

## Meet the New Convention Presidents

*Natalie Hilderbrand and Drew Wadsworth,  
Menlo School*

**S**alvete CJCL! Our names are Natalie and Drew, and we're both really excited to host all of California's wonderful and dedicated Latin students at Menlo next year! First, here's a bit about us:

Natalie is a Sophomore at Menlo, and has been in love with Latin and the people it attracts since 6th grade. She's currently serving as Secretary of the Menlo chapter during the 2016-2017 school year, and is looking forward to increasing her involvement in JCL as Convention President this upcoming year. Natalie has attended two State Conventions and is pumped to go to her first national convention this summer! Natalie is also the resident grammarian on the Menlo Varsity Certamen Team.

Drew is a Junior at Menlo. He's been taking Latin since 6th grade, and he is excited to continue into his senior year with post-AP Latin. He also specializes in daily life for the Menlo varsity certamen team. Drew is currently serving as Second Vice President of Menlo JCL and concurrently writing the Menlo JCL constitution, and he is thrilled to serve CJCL as Convention President in 2018!

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## Q&A with Venkat Sankar: Convention MVP

*Zahra Hasanain, Nuntius Editor*

**V**enkat Sankar, a senior at the Harker School, won an astounding amount of awards at State Convention, including 1st place overall in academics at the advanced level, and an unprecedented score of 100% on one of his tests. But Venkat's awards aren't nearly as important an achievement as his unwavering passion for Classics and the JCL. He shared the insights he's gained throughout his 6-year-long journey as a JCLer with me:

**Q: Why do you enjoy studying for convention tests?**

**A:** Preparing for and participating in CA JCL and NJCL Convention tests has been a great way for me to expand my passion for Latin and the classics beyond the classroom curriculum. As a STEM student, I find that the classics truly open up a new dimension of thinking for me, one that importantly steps away from the rigid rationality of science and math, and helps me make insightful connections between the left and right halves of my thinking.

**Q: What's your favorite test to take and why?**

**A:** I would call out Ancient Geography as my favorite because it opens a unique window into the ancient life and culture. I was fortunate to make a visit to Rome this past year and it was wonderful to go beyond the maps and spend time at the ruins and monuments and imagining ancient Rome as it was a very long time ago.

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## Maximas Gratias Vobis Ago

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Jelly Bean Mosaics and Carpe Remum. I'm also very thankful for all of the new friends I made over the course of this journey. From the 2016 CAJCL National's group, to seeing my fellow State Board members at meetings, to spending countless hours with my own Convention Board, to everyone else that I have met along the way, the friendships that I have formed capture the very best of JCL. I can't wait for the new adventures we'll go on in the new year.

And so, a year of planning for a two-day party has come and gone. State Convention would not have been possible without you, and your support and kind words meant the world to us. If I'm going to be honest, I'm actually quite sad that it's over. This was by far the most rewarding task that I have ever completed, and the best group project that I've ever worked on. I know I'll always look back on these memories fondly and cherish them forever. Thank you for letting me play Jay Gatsby for a weekend. Here's to you.



**“Thank you for letting me play Jay Gatsby  
for a weekend”**

## Q&A with Venkat Sankar: Convention MVP

*(continued from pg. 2)*

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**Q: What was your favorite part of convention?**

**A:** Meeting my peers from across the state who are equally passionate about Latin and the classics is my favorite part of the convention. CA JCL strikes the perfect balance between work and play and I especially enjoy the pervasive spirit of camaraderie.

**Q: Do you have any tips on how to get better at taking convention tests?**

**A:** Pick topics that you love and read throughout the year, as opposed to just preparing hard for a few days before the convention. Tactically, using tests from prior years is a good way to validate your knowledge and target your preparation toward areas that need further work.

**Q: What have you learned from all the work you've put into competing at convention?**

**A:** I've been an active CJCL participant for the past 6 years, exploring nearly every *(continued on pg. 4)*



## Meet the New Convention Presidents

*(continued from pg. 2)*

Drew has attended two state conventions and will support CJCL at his first national convention this summer!

The planning has already begun for a convention in April 2018 that we hope you will all enjoy. Menlo is looking to build off of the successes and learnings from the awesome conventions at Saint Ignatius and Woodbridge the last two years as well as the convention Menlo hosted back in 2012 to plan an event that will be truly special for all. We're working on a schedule to include classic JCL activities that everyone loves including sports, graphic arts, academic competitions, and many more. We're also looking forward to adding some new, fun activities such as a coding challenge and spoken Latin discussion during lunch. We plan to bring back sports like swimming and quidditch as well. Our campus will include a brand new cafeteria and student center being built this year along with a creative arts center that is only a few years old, which will provide great facilities for sports, arts, and activities of all kinds. Everyone on the Menlo team is looking forward to bringing an energizing, exciting, and engaging experience to all of CJCL next April.

## Q&A with Venkat Sankar: Convention MVP

*(continued from pg. 3)*

area: geography, culture, arts, Certamen, speech events, and literature. CA JCL experiences have been an important factor in shaping my passion for Latin and the classics. For me, competing at the convention hasn't just been about winning awards (although they are a nice validation!); the bigger reward has been the recognition and cultivation of my passion. I sincerely hope that the classics will be a lifelong journey for me!



**Natalie and Drew announcing their plans to host convention at the 3rd general assembly**

## Convention Pictures!



Top, L to R: Chariot Racing, Candidates Open Forum, New CJCL Board

Middle, L to R: Art Submissions, STEM Challenge, Jewelry Submissions

Bottom, L to R: Bubble Soccer, Spirit Competition, Jelly Bean Mosaics

Got pictures from Convention? Send them to [historian@cajcl.org](mailto:historian@cajcl.org) so they can be featured in the CJCL Scrapbook!



# ESTISNE PARATI CERTAMINI?

(Are you ready for Certamen?)



Are you going to the National Junior Classical League Convention in Troy, Alabama? Do you love competing in certamen? Miramonte Latin is proud to be hosting a three day CAJCL Certamen Practice for any CAJCL delegates to the NJCL convention. We will be studying, practicing, and competing in all things certamen from **9:00 am to 5:00 pm from Monday, June 19<sup>th</sup> to Wednesday, June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017**. We will also go bowling and watch a movie on Monday and Tuesday nights.

If students will like to stay over with us, we will also provide housing at Miramonte Latin student homes close by. Students should only bring some money to help pay for food. If you are interested in coming to the CAJCL certamen practice, sign up for Nationals and email Mr. Davis, the Sponsor of Miramonte High School at [mdavis@acalanes.k12.ca.us](mailto:mdavis@acalanes.k12.ca.us).

## **TOSSUP #17- WHAT KING OF THE VANDALS SACKED ROME IN 455 AD?**

**B1: WHERE IN 439 AD DID GAISERIC  
DECLARE HIMSELF AN INDEPENDENT  
RULER OWING NO ALLEGIANCE TO  
ROME?**

**B2: THE ARMY OF WHAT EASTERN ROMAN EMPEROR WAS  
UTTERLY OUTWITTED BY GAISERIC AND FAILED EVEN TO  
REACH AFRICA?**

Answers:

Tossup: Gaiseric

B1: Carthage/Africa

B2: Leo (I)

