



Torch: WI

Wisconsin Junior Classical League
Convention 2010

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Pictures taken by Joey Steven,
2009-2010 WJCL Historian





Candidate Biographies

Each year, Candidates from all different schools strive to become part of the Wisconsin Junior Classical League Board. Although these candidates differ in grade and Latin level, they all have one thing in common: they share a love for the classics. Aside from prior preparation, Candidates start campaigning and conversing with schools at convention. At the second general assembly held on Friday morning, each candidate gives a speech to the WJCL explaining his or her goals and what he or she will do if elected. After days of campaigning, conversing, and persuading, Candidates find out if they won their position on the last day at the final general assembly. At previous state conventions, WJCL candidates could run for one of eight spots offered on the board: President, First Vice President, Second Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Parliamentarian, Editor/Historian, and Tech Coordinator. This past year, however, the WJCL decided to split the Editor/Historian Position into two different positions to put more emphasis on Editorship. Running for nine unique positions, Candidates for the 2010-2011 WJCL board represent over seven schools and range in grade and Latin levels.

- Bridget McGowan, 2009-2010 WJCL First VP

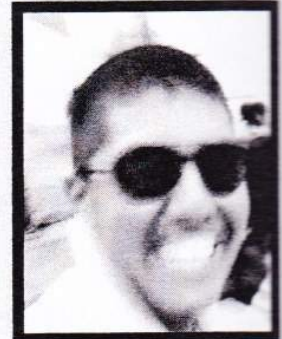
I. President Candidates

Fernando Espino

Marquette High School
My name is Fernando Espino, Currently a junior at Marquette University High School. Enrolled In Latin III.

Favorite Hobby: driving any type Of vehicle, from car to Motorcycle.
Favorite Animal: an eagle, because nothing can really compare To how majestic it is.
Favorite Movie: The Dark Knight Heath Ledger at his finest.

Favorite Food: any Mexican Cuisine.
Favorite Character in Myth: Odysseus, never irrational in his actions like other heroes.
Favorite Latin Quote: " Ipsa scientia potestas est"- Knowledge itself is power.



II. Secretary Candidate

Safeeyah Quereshi

Brookfield Academy

Safeeyah Quereshi is a sophomore at Brookfield Academy and is currently taking Level III Latin. She has attended to two National and two State Conventions so far. In her spare time she enjoys playing field hockey, trying to bake, reading books (especially mythology stories), and listening to music. One thing you probably don't know about her is that she has a mild phobia of butterflies.



Mara Steven

Brookfield Academy

Mara Steven is a junior at Brookfield Academy and has made it to Level 4 in Latin, after many years of learning Ovid and Catullus and a bit of Caesar here and there. Mara has recently learned the joys of skiing now that she no longer falls every few feet, and she would love to challenge anyone who claims Athena is superior to Artemis.



III. Tech Coordinator

Rebekah Faust

Wayland Academy

Rebekah Faust is a junior and third year Latin student at Wayland Academy. She loves the classics and also likes science and history. She adores penguins, the color yellow, and pineapple. Rebekah is excited to be more involved with the WJCL



IV. Historian Candidate

Isaac Stafstrom

West High

I'm Isaac Stafstrom. I go to West, where I am in the eleventh grade. I am in Latin V. I enjoy playing the Banjo, trying to yodel, and chopping wood.





V. First Vice President Candidates

Nicole Bray

Brookfield Academy

Nicole Bray is a sophomore at Brookfield Academy, where she takes AP Vergil. This is her third state convention, and she has attended two national conventions. She enjoys dancing, singing, swimming, and studying for her Latin tests (of course!), and she can usually be found wearing a scarf. Nicole is not uninterested in recruiting new students to Latin and loves to point out rhetorical devices in people's everyday conversations.



Halah Ahmad

DSHA

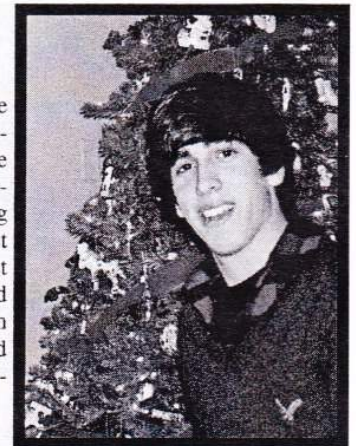
I am in 10th grade (sophomore) at DSHA. I am in Latin II but plan to finish Latin III by the end of second semester because I am working at a faster pace. I'm one of those kinds of people who's into just about everything and often the really cool and interesting stuff in the world (like Latin!) As a WJCL officer, I would do really well because I would be committed to promoting the language and cultures of which I'm so fond!



Elliot Andres

Marquette University High School

Salve, fellow members of the WJCL; my name is Elliot Endres and I'd like to just tell you a little about myself. I am running for 1st Vice President of the WJCL this year and would very much like your support in the election. I go to Marquette University High School in Milwaukee in which I participate and have participated in the past with sports such as track, football, and wrestling and also more recently some opportunities for exemplifying and building up my sense of leadership with service opportunities such as tutoring children in Milwaukee, and I also went on a trip to South Dakota to help clean the Youth Center and interact and administer to the kids in the Cheyenne River Youth Project, which is located in the number one poorest county in the U.S. I have also been in Latin for three years and have been to two national conventions, and this is my second state convention. But all these attributes don't mean anything unless I tell you what I'm running for 1st VP for. The WJCL gives us all a place to relax, have fun, compete in a subject we all love, and to meet new people and I just want to help in any way I can to make sure that other schools and other institutions can have the awesome opportunity that all of us here have.



VI. Second Vice President Candidates

Elizabeth Kontarovich

Homestead High School

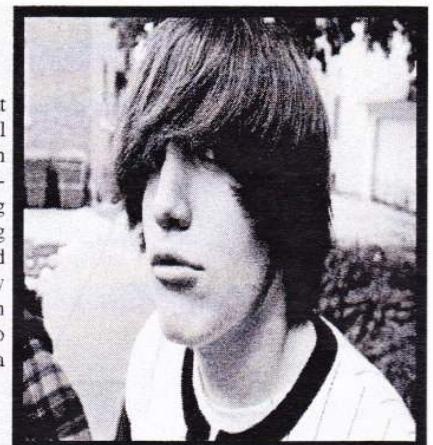
My name is Elizabeth Kontarovich and I am a junior at Homestead High School. I LOVE Latin — I'm taking Latin III and am also the co-spirit coordinator for our Latin Club. In my free time, I dance, swim on Homestead's Swim Team, and enjoy having fun with my friends.



Jackson Reed

Rufus King

Jackson Reed is a junior at Rufus King High School currently taking Latin III. In his spare time Jackson enjoys drawing, performing improv comedy, spending time on Xbox live, and doing things most may consider "embarrassing" in public. His dream is to grow sideburns fit for a Brooklyn detective.





Biographies/ Collage

VII. Parliamentarian Candidates

Julia Philips

Brookfield Academy
Salve WJCLer! Mihi nomen est Julia Philips. I am a Junior at Brookfield Academy and am in AP Vergil. I have been taking Latin for seven years (but it feels like I've known this language since I was in utero), so I must be in love! On a more personal note, I love food almost as much as I love Latin, and singing along to British music in a funny accent is a serious hobby of mine. I would be a great addition to the WJCL board as Parliamentarian because I can effectively make the legislative changes that people want. My goal is a WJCL of the discipuli, by the discipuli, and for the discipuli!



VIII. Treasurer Candidate

Genevieve O'Meara

DSHA
Hello, I am a junior at DSHA and am in Latin III. I have a guinea pig named Milkshake, and she is my best friend. My favorite food is the Mexican gumbo from Qdoba. I love Law and Order SVU and have a sick amount of the episodes recorded and watch them constantly. And last but for sure not least, I love Latin with an intense passion. Sometimes it scares people but it's nothing too harmful.



Sabrina D'Agostino

Rufus King High School
I'm a Junior in my third level of Latin at Rufus King I.B High School. My gamertag is Kylonen which is also the name of my level 80 on World of Warcraft. I'm a down to earth sort of girl so don't be afraid to say Salve.



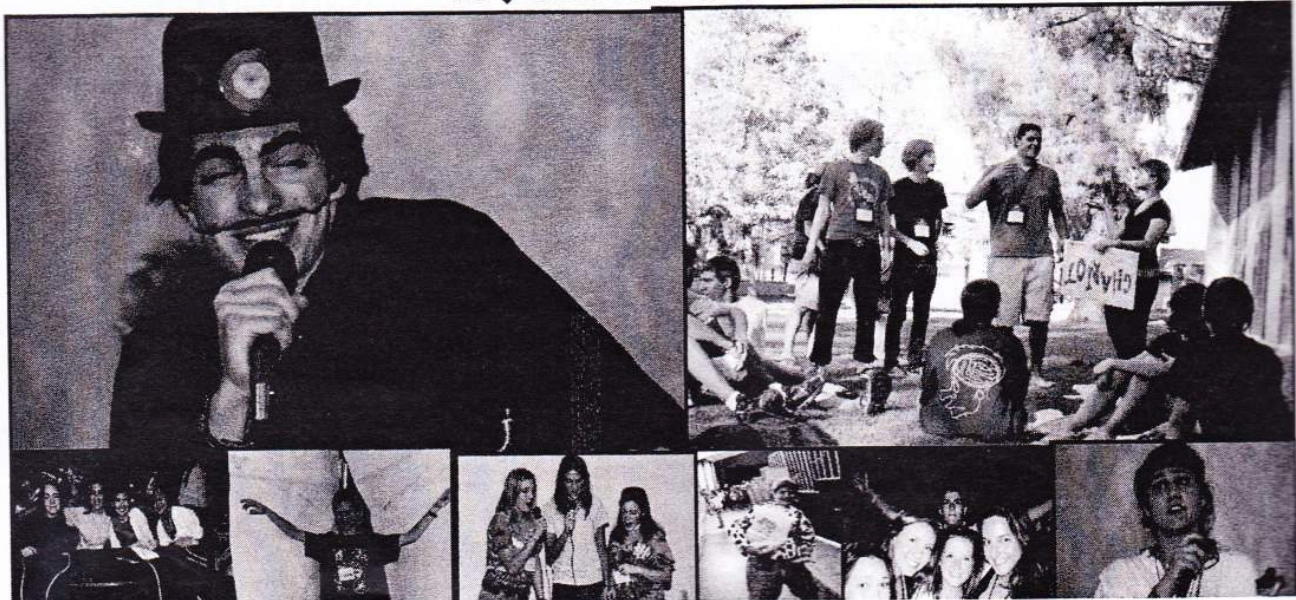
IX. Editor Candidate

Marnie Wallach

DSHA
Marnie Wallach, a candidate for the position of Editor, is a sophomore in Latin II at DSHA. This is her second year at WJCL convention, and she enjoys cheering the most. She is the last of five girls in her family to take Latin at DSHA. When she is not spending her time doing Latin-related activities, she likes to play soccer and hang out with friends.



WJCL 2009-2010





State Service!

This year, the WJCL had many firsts. Throughout the 2009-2010 year, the WJCL started state-wide service. Mara Steven, the 2009-2010 Second Vice President, worked to implement service as part of the WJCL. From car washes to walks, the WJCL raised money for several worthwhile organizations and helped to spread the name of the Wisconsin Junior Classical League. Read about the different events the WJCL took part in to help these organizations!

FUNDRAISERS

On April 26th, 2009, WJCL members volunteered for the Multiple Sclerosis Society. Every year, the Multiple Sclerosis Society holds a fundraiser in hopes of curing this disease. One of the first state-wide service projects, this service project helped out a truly appreciative organization.

CAR WASH

During the month of August, WJCL members held a car wash to raise money for the American Lung Association (ALA). They raised money while having fun with other WJCL members!



TRICK-OR-TREAT

In October, schools went trick-or-treating individually to raise money for UNICEF, or the United Nation's Children's Fund. Total, the WJCL raised over \$500 for this great cause.

SCHOOL FUNDRAISING

Also, different schools involved in the WJCL raised money individually for the ALA. Ultimately, the WJCL as a whole donated \$2,317, and earned a spot in the top 10 fundraising teams. This served as the WJCL's largest state-wide service project.

Schools Promote Latin

Wayland Academy

Whenever I say I'm in the Junior Classical League, people stop to ask me "What's that?" I tell them that Junior Classical League is a club for those who love Latin; we study the language, the myths, and the history of ancient Rome. Our chapter of JCL is small, but we have very loyal members. This year we have already begun the planning of our trip to convention, and, to raise money, we are holding a bake sale. In our prep for convention we play Certamen a lot. Though this is my first year in JCL, I can already see why such prep is important because convention is a big deal.

After attending our first convention last January, the Wayland JCL chapter was given a lot to think about. It was a totally new experience for us, and needless to say, we were all a little shell-shocked. After convention, we were all poignantly aware of just what an impressive organization the WJCL is, and it was clear that we needed to become more involved. We immediately began sending representatives to the monthly board meetings in order to stay informed on what was going on, as well as making several internal improvements as well. Before the end of last school year, we held a cupcake and cookie bake-sale, in order to fundraise and to increase the Wayland community's awareness of JCL as a club. The 2009 - 2010 school year opened many new doors for our club as membership increased and everyone was excited for the coming year. We have been diligently preparing for convention, meeting twice a week (increased from last year). Many of our club members did the trick-or-treat for UNICEF within the dorms, as well as at home if they were able. We were extremely excited to host the December board meeting, which went off without a hitch, and hopefully opened the door to many future hosting opportunities. Before we leave for break, we are having another bake sale to raise more money to help our members go to state convention this coming January.

- Esme Bamiskis and Savanna Jensen, Wayland Academy

Homestead High School

Throughout the year, Homestead's Latin Club organized various activities, from Ice Cream Socials to bake sales. In September, Homestead's Latin Club organized an ice cream social, and students from all four levels of Latin came to get some ice cream and socialize. In addition to this, Homestead's Latin club made Gingerbread Houses during the holidays and held 3 bake sales during the fall and early winter in order to raise money for convention.

- Bridget McGowan, Homestead High School

Brookfield Academy

Brookfield Academy's Latin Club has enthusiastically participated in a number of service projects this past year. They created Valentine's Day cards for local nursing homes, volunteered at the Milwaukee Multiple Sclerosis Walk, helped fundraise for the American Lung Association, and hosted a Latin Christmas movie to raise money for a New Berlin food pantry. B.A.'s Latin Club has also celebrated Rome's birthday and gone toga bowling to promote their Latin Club.

- Nicole Bray, Brookfield Academy



2009-2010 Officers Say Farewell

My favorite part of being President was being able to take an active role in the organization that has shaped a large part of my high school career. Working alongside an outstanding board to get things done was so rewarding, as was the knowledge that I had helped to run each meeting as efficiently and smoothly as possible. In the end, I see my term as part of the WJCL Board as time well spent 'fostering brotherhood' and heading an organization to which I will be forever indebted.



-Sidhi Gosain, 2009-2010 President

Many of you probably do not know me because I did not run at the 2009 Convention, but I served as the WJCL Vice President and temporary Editor this past year. I am so thankful for this opportunity. Not only did I get to work alongside a talented board, I learned so much from this experience. I encourage anyone in the WJCL to run for a position. Even if you have ran before and not received the position, do not be discouraged to run again. Being part of the 2009-2010 Board has been an amazing experience, and anyone in the WJCL should really take up this great opportunity.



-Bridget McGowan, 2009-2010 First VP

Some of you may remember me as "the guy who told the joke about the Roman soldier." Some of you may have no idea who I am. Either way, that's OK. What's important is that I've been your Secretary for the past year, taking minutes at the monthly WJCL board meetings. It's not only been an honor to have this responsibility, but it's also been (surprisingly) a lot of fun! I always feel like I have access to secret WJCL information (did you know that the JCL song has an actual melody?), and I also have the power to divulge this information to everyone else in my minutes. If you want power, fame, and eternal glory, then I encourage you to run for a WJCL office next year, or at least come to one of our monthly meetings to see what we're all about.



-Brian Earl, 2009-2010 Secretary

Thank you all so much for giving me the opportunity to serve as your 2nd Vice President this year! Who knew dressing up as a cow could be so much fun?! I loved being able to get together with JCL friends at our five state-wide service projects this year, even though I came home from the car wash smelling like soap and with a dented car. Being a part of the board has been an honor this year. Ave atque vale!



-Mara Steven, 2009-2010 Second VP

As Treasurer of the WJCL, I have the honor of working with all of the state chairs and officers. Throughout this experience, I have learned techniques for planning and collaborating with others to make the WJCL the best it can be. This position is awesome because I get to work closely with Magistra Ganley, and she is awesome. I would highly recommend running for this position, or any position, because the WJCL is an amazing organization that encourages students to love the Classics and teaches wonderful skills like organization and teamwork.



-Genevieve O'Meara, 2009-2010 Treasurer

I had a pretty busy year as parliamentarian. In addition to my basic duties of presiding over state and national elections and ensuring that the constitution was followed throughout the year, I had to handle three vacancies. I also proposed an amendment and miraculously (thank you, Rebekah!) found a candidate for tech coordinator who is not Drew Boldt. Early in my term, I wasn't totally comfortable with taking charge and running elections, but our awesome State Chairs were always supportive, and I feel like I developed a lot as a person this year. It wasn't easy, but it was absolutely worth the work. Overall, being parliamentarian was a fantastic experience, and I would recommend WJCL office to anyone who loves convention as much as I do.



-Thess Hobbs, 2009-2010 Parliamentarian

This was my second year as Technology Coordinator. Throughout both years, I have had an amazing experience meeting new people and spreading my love for Latin! I really loved being on the board because I got to physically contribute to our Latin organization, and I also got to be part of two great officer teams!



- Drew Boldt, 2009-2010 Tech Coordinator



Non est ad astra mollis e terris via"

There is no easy way from the earth to the stars.
---Seneca the Younger

Thanks everyone for a great 2009-2010 year!