

## **2012 TJCL State Convention – Preliminary Information**

**Murfreesboro, TN – Friday, April 13 and Saturday, April 14, 2012**

**PARENTS AND STUDENTS – PLEASE READ ALL OF THIS INFORMATION CAREFULLY!**

Convention Web Page: <http://faculty.musowls.org/tjcl/2012-convention.html>

All students and parents are responsible for reading the TJCL Convention Packet, which is posted on this web page.

Faculty Sponsors / Chaperones: Sellers, Suddarth, Reinhardt, Gagliano, Torrey, Murphy

Hotel / Convention Center: Embassy Suites Hotel and Convention Center  
1200 Conference Center Blvd.  
Murfreesboro, TN 37129  
615-890-4464

Tentative Schedule:

Thursday, April 12:

Depart from MUS at 1:30 PM

Everyone should eat lunch at MUS before we depart. We will not stop for lunch along the way. By leaving at this time (after 7<sup>th</sup> period on Thursday), everyone will miss each class just one time for the week.

Check into hotel – ca. 5:30 PM

Go out to dinner – ca. 6:30 PM

Friday, April 13:

TJCL Convention (ca. 7:30 AM – 9:00 PM)

Saturday, April 14:

TJCL Convention (9:00 AM – 11:00 AM)

Lunch along the way

Arrive back at MUS – ca. 3:30 PM

Eligibility Requirements:

1. Be a current JCL member.
2. Have either an A average in Latin One or at least a strong B average in Upper School Latin.
3. Have the Latin teacher's permission.

## Participation Requirements:

1. All MUS students must complete either the poem, the essay, or the new advocacy letter. Follow the guidelines very carefully. You are on your honor not to submit a poem that you have submitted in a previous year's competition.

### Poem Guidelines:

All poems must be in English, must be between 20 and 32 lines, and must have a classical theme. Poems must be of original composition; no paraphrasing of existing poetry (ancient or modern) is permitted.

Entrants should include one cover page and one typed, double-spaced copy of the poem. The cover page should include the title of the poem, the student's name, school, and grade, and the name and signature of the student's sponsor. The page(s) of the poem should also contain the title of the poem but no other identifying information.

### Essay Guidelines:

Anyone entering an essay may NOT compete in English Oratory.

Essays must be in English, must be between 250 and 500 words, and must relate to the convention theme: *Dimidium facti qui coepit habet* ("He who has begun has half the deed done").

Each contestant should include one cover sheet and one typed, double-spaced copy of his or her essay. The cover sheet should contain the contestant's name, school, grade, and the name and signature of his or her Latin teacher. The page(s) of the essay itself should not contain any of this identifying information.

### Advocacy Letter Guidelines:

Students will produce a letter supporting the teaching of Latin / Classics in a hypothetical scenario in which a college or university in which they are interested is pondering the discontinuation of the Classics department or Classics major, or is phasing out the teaching of Latin. The reasons for discontinuation in this scenario are that the department is unprofitable and the teaching of Latin is of "no practical value."

The letter should be in standard business-letter format and addressed to the actual president, provost, or chair of the relevant department at the chosen school. It should be typed, single-spaced, and under two-pages. The letter should not contain a signature or any references that would identify the student or his/her school.

The advocacy letter should be accompanied by a cover letter containing the student's name, school, grade, and the name and signature of his/her Latin teacher.

2. Academic Testing – All MUS students must prepare for and take *at least* five tests. Vocabulary, Derivatives, Reading Comprehension, and Grammar are required. Students must then choose at least one additional test (History, Mythology, Roman Life, Geography, etc.). A link to the MUS academic testing study guides is available via Mr. Suddarth’s faculty page.

**It is absolutely critical for us to do well on these academic tests. This is where the convention will be won or lost.**

3. In addition to the pre-convention writing contest and academic testing, all MUS students must compete in at least one other convention contest:

Certamen (competition squad or practice squad)	Skit (1 group)
English Oratory (6 students)	Dramatic Latin (6 students)
Mythology Spelling Bee (2 students)	Costume (10 students, 1 group)
Vocal Performance (3 students, 1 group)	Spirit Leader (1 student)
Graphic Arts (8 submissions per category)	

These two events do NOT count as an extra convention contest:

Limited Chariot Race – Coach Torrey will select this team.

Mini-Olympika – Keep in mind that TJCL has, at this point, no specific plan in place for this, and we have no idea how many students will be allowed to participate or what the activities may be. Whenever guidelines are announced, Coach Torrey will select the participants.

#### How To Sign Up For the Convention:

1. Turn in your poem, essay, or advocacy letter. If you turn in complete garbage, or if you fail to follow the guidelines, your submission will not be accepted.
2. Turn in your completed permission slips. One is for TJCL, the other for MUS.
3. Be prepared to tell your teacher what other event(s) you plan to participate in.
4. Parents will be billed \$200.00 by the school. (For qualified students, this fee (or a portion of it) will be covered by financial aid.) This fee will include convention registration, transportation, lodging, and an MUS convention T-shirt. Unless you tell us otherwise, you will receive the same size shirt you ordered at the beginning of the year.

Meals are NOT included in this price; you will pay for these on your own.

5. TJCL is offering a special convention T-shirt of its own. If you would like to purchase one in advance, please bring a check made out to MUS for \$12.00. If you do not purchase one in advance, there will be a few leftover shirts for sale at the convention on Saturday morning.

**Deadline – Wednesday, February 8, 2012**

**Since we have a limited number of spaces, turning in everything early is recommended.**

Memphis University School - Extracurricular Activity Permission Slip

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Level of Latin: \_\_\_\_\_ Teacher Name: \_\_\_\_\_

My son has permission to travel with the MUS delegation to attend the TJCL State Convention in Murfreesboro, TN from April 12 – April 14, 2012.

\_\_\_\_\_ parent / guardian signature \_\_\_\_\_ date

\_\_\_\_\_ phone number(s) where parents / guardians may be reached during the trip

I agree to abide by all MUS and TJCL policies and expectations in respect to this trip.

\_\_\_\_\_ student signature \_\_\_\_\_ date

Convention Participation Requirements

Circle at least one: POEM ESSAY ADVOCACY LETTER

Academic tests (required for all MUS students):

VOCAB GRAMMAR DERIVATIVES READING COMP

Other academic tests I plan to take (circle at least one):

MYTHOLOGY HISTORY ROMAN LIFE CLASSICAL GEOGRAPHY  
HELLENICS LATIN LIT CLASSICAL ART ACADEMIC HEPTATHLON

At least one other event I plan to participate in (circle at least one):

There are certain limits and exclusions for these contests. Talk to your teacher first.

SKIT ENGLISH ORATORY DRAMATIC LATIN  
VOCAL PERFORMANCE CERTAMEN MYTH SPELLING BEE  
COSTUME CONTEST GRAPHIC ARTS category: \_\_\_\_\_  
SPIRIT CONTEST LEADER CHARIOT RACE MINI-OLYMPIKA

## 2012 TJCL State Convention – Student Permission Slip

Please give a blank copy to each student.

All permission slips must be turned in by the chapter sponsor at the beginning of the convention. They **should not** be mailed in advance.

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Phone Number(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of the parent or guardian gives the above-named student permission to attend and participate in the Tennessee Junior Classical League State Convention on April 13-15, 2012 at the Embassy Suites, Murfreesboro. The parent or guardian assumes responsibility for any damages done by the above-named student to TJCL or convention center property. Signature of the parent or guardian also relieves TJCL, the Embassy Suites, and their representatives of any and all liability connected with this convention.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(signature of parent or guardian)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(date)

### Medical Release and Information

In the event of an injury or illness to the above-named student during the convention, even if I cannot be contacted directly at the time, I hereby authorize the Tennessee Junior Classical League and its agents to provide and / or obtain any medical treatment they deem necessary. I hereby release the Tennessee Junior Classical League and its agents from any and all claims and liability arising in any way out of its exercise of this authority.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(signature of parent or guardian)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(date)

If you would like TJCL to have this information in case of a medical emergency, please complete:

Name of Medical Insurance Company \_\_\_\_\_

Insurance Policy Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Policy Holder: \_\_\_\_\_

Family Physician and Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Relevant Medical Problems / Medications: \_\_\_\_\_