

# Torch: MDJCL

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Salvete! Nothing brings me holiday cheer quite like the magic of Latin! This winter's certamen is *Saturnalia* themed, just in time for the holiday season. Linganore High School is hosting the celebrations with a day of festive Latin competition, and even the teachers are competing!





## **The Torch and YOU!**

Did you know that YOU, yes YOU can contribute to the Torch?! Well, you can! And you should! If you have something interesting to say or just feel like submitting something Classical related, do it! Send submissions to [lizmcapuano@gmail.com](mailto:lizmcapuano@gmail.com).



## **T-SHIRT CONTEST**

Are you artistically inclined with an eye for design? If so, we want YOU to design our 2015-2016 MDJCL t-shirt! The deadline for submissions is January 1<sup>st</sup>, which is approaching soon!!!! Voting will begin shortly after. Designs are to be submitted at [mdjcl.org/#tshirts](http://mdjcl.org/#tshirts) and the winner will receive a special prize at State Convention! Limit one design per individual.

## **State Convention**

The MDJCL 2016 State Convention will be hosted by Easton High School and held at the Country School from April 9-10.



## **National Convention**

The NJCL 2016 Convention will be held at Indiana University, Bloomington from July 25-30. For more information, visit [www.njcl.org](http://www.njcl.org).

## What is Saturnalia?

Saturnalia is an Ancient Roman holiday in honor of Saturn, a god of wealth and agriculture. The festivities lasted from December 17<sup>th</sup> through December 23<sup>rd</sup>. Citizens would make sacrifices, hold banquets, and even masters and slaves reversed roles! Slaves were treated to a meal that would typically only be eaten by their masters. In honor of this tradition, in this season's event, the students get to test the teacher's classical knowledge in a few rounds of upside-down and backwards certamen! In Ancient Roman times, Saturnalia was also a time for free-speech, the wearing of festive masks and brightly colored garments, and gift-giving! December 19<sup>th</sup>, known as *sigillaria*, was considered to be the day of gift-giving, in which a variety of presents were exchanged, even gag-gifts!

## Latin Carols!!!!

### Sing in the tune of Deck The Halls

Aquifolia ornate  
 Fa la la la la, la la la la  
 Tempus hoc hilaritatis.  
 Fa la la la la, la la la la  
 Vestes claras induamus;  
 Fa la la la la, la la la la  
 Cantilenas nunc promamus.  
 Fa la la la la, la la la la

For more songs and translations, go to  
<http://gaudium-mundo.blogspot.com>

### Sing in the tune of Rudolph the Rednosed Reindeer

Reno erat Rudolphus  
 Nasum rubrum habebat;  
 Si quando hunc videbas,  
 Hunc candere tu dicas.  
 Omnes renos alii  
 Semper hunc deridebant;  
 Cum misero Rudolpho  
 In ludis non ludebant.  
 Santus Nicholas dixit  
 Nocte nebulae,  
 "Rudolphe, naso claro  
 Nonne carrum tu duces?"  
 Tum renos clamabant,  
 "Rudolphe, delectus es!  
 Cum naso rubro claro  
 Historia descendes!"

**Happy Holidays from your Officers!**

“*Novus annus gaudia nobis ferat.* An idea for the holidays: show the Mini Minotaur song to every member of your family.” –Magistra Kunz

“Well, it seems to be the time to visit family and try to explain what JCL is. If anyone has ideas, let me know. I’ve been trying to explain for three years and will be attempting again this weekend. Have a happy holiday! I hope the Certamen is amazing, I’m sorry I couldn’t be there! See you in the new year!” –Ellie Kilmon

“*Laetus novus annus omnibus!* I hope you all have an amazing holiday season with catching up on sleep and lots of hot chocolate! I look forward to seeing you all in the new year and fingers crossed that I won’t still have holiday songs stuck in my head!” –Ella Joshi

“It’s been another year, huh? Well as you guys close the year and look forward to your new one with your friends and family, I want you all to remember that one Latin quote by Virgil every Latin teacher has probably drilled into your skull by now: *labor omnia vincit.* That’s the Roman way of doing things; to keep pushing yourself to do better in the hopes that things will be better. Keep giving it your all to make this coming year fantastic, and us MJCL officers will do the same to make it great for all of you too. Cheers to another strong year in the MDJCL!” –Edmund Obeng

“*Vale* to MMXV and *salve* to MMXV...!! Have a fantastic holiday season! May all your Saturnalia wishes come true and all your new year’s resolutions never be given up on! –Liz Capuano

“May your holiday not be plagued by raging gorgons but full of happy, non-deponent verbs.”  
–Jonah Langlieb

“This new year, *fortuna nobis faveat!* As for this holiday season, I want a book about falafelosophy. What about you?” –Katie Toth

**Information**

Website: [www.mdjcl.org](http://www.mdjcl.org)

Twitter: @MDJCL

Facebook: Maryland Junior Classical League