



The CAV News

The Newsletter of the Classical Association of Virginia

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Winter 2024

THE CLASSICAL ASSOCIATION OF VIRGINIA

Promoting Classics in the Old Dominion since 1910

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President's Message

Salvete, comites!

Tempus fugit! It does, indeed – but when you're *occupatus* with many engaging and productive activities, it goes *iucundissime et felicissime* as well as *celerrime*. Perhaps we seem to be hurrying along the seasons with this "winter" newsletter when it is only November. It really feels to me like we are in that sweet spot of the year: past the start of that new school year energy and excitement, and having already laid the groundwork for another successful campaign. With the first quarter in the books, it is time to take stock of our start and to look ahead to all the things we want to accomplish as we head into that long middle stretch of the year.

We enjoyed a successful Fall Meeting at UVA on September 21. It was well attended, both in-person and with a handful of virtual attendees. Charlaine Lunsford of Great Bridge High School in Chesapeake brought us up to speed on the changes to the AP Latin curriculum.

ACL/NJCL National Latin Exam

application postmark
deadline Jan. 24, 2025!

Online registration
deadline Feb. 14, 2025!

Testing window February
24-March 14, 2025.

See NLE website
(www.nle.org) for
information.

Caleb Dance of Washington & Lee University brought us into the world of Ovid and the book, while Nadhira Hill of Randolph-Macon College shared her findings of archaeological research into the culture of wine drinking in the everyday world of ancient Greeks beyond the formal symposium.

You will see in this issue the topics that were announced for the Classical and Latin Essay Contests, as well as information on the Latin Tournament from our new director, Lexi Harrell of Clover Hill High School. Everyone should have plenty of time to decide how they can work these contests into their curricula and schedules in the second half of the school year. Now is the time to resolve to have your students

	<p>participate, and to encourage your colleagues to do likewise. I have always found these to be great ways to build camaraderie among my students, as they work toward a challenging goal, and see the fruits of their efforts come springtime. And what a great way to showcase your program to your administrators and school community! Along those same lines, many high school teachers across the state are busily preparing to take their cohorts to the VJCL Latin Convention in late November. Ever since my own son (and student) absolutely compelled me to bring him and his classmates to Latin Convention, it has been the highlight of our year.</p>
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MORE NLE INFORMATION:

Latin teachers, does your program focus on **comprehensible input, active Latin, or reading proficiency**? The National Latin Exam now has a full sequence of reading comprehension exams with the addition of a Beginning Latin Reading Comprehension Exam (BLRC) this year. You can determine the appropriate level for your students based on the NLE syllabus and the speed and progression of your program. The syllabus can be found on the new NLE website (<https://www.nle.org/nle-syllabus>). Register by January 24th for the paper exams or by February 14th for online exams (<https://www.nle.org/registration>). A sample BLRC Exam can be found on the NLE website. We have listened to your needs and hope that these exams fit well for some Latin programs! Of course, traditional exams are still available for all levels, which feature stand-alone grammar and culture questions, along with questions based on a short Latin passage. *If you don't give the NLE, or haven't in a while – check out our website and you might be pleasantly surprised at the varied options and flexibility in progression!*

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Those of us who were lucky enough to attend the fall FLAVA meeting in Norfolk in October can attest to the joys of that busy but happy feeling. They can also attest to the strong presence that Latin and CAV have in the world of Virginia foreign language teaching. Our own CAV Secretary, Holly Fitterer of Riverbend High School, serves as Communications Coordinator for FLAVA. Latin teacher Virginia Kibler of Tomahawk Creek Middle School is the Conference Coordinator, and Aliea Lewis of George Washington High School is the Volunteer Coordinator. Of course, Sue Robertson continues to be an absolute rock of the whole thing, serving inter alia, as Presenter Liaison. There was a full slate of Latin sessions, with presenters in their early years of teaching sharing new ways to approach things like spoken Latin, Latin writing, and field trips, as well as veterans of many decades sharing from their lifetimes of teaching and research. Middle school teachers all the way through college professors enlightened one another and enjoyed lively and collegial discussions and camaraderie. Old connections were renewed, and new acquaintances were made. The central role of CAV promoting Classics in Virginia was a through line in all. I could not have been more proud and energized to be representing the Classical Association of Virginia at this statewide language teacher conference.

In that spirit, I encourage you all to mark your calendars for our May 10 th Spring Meeting in Lexington, hosted by Washington & Lee University. Be sure, also, not to pass up any chance to challenge and reward your students, colleagues (and yourselves!) by taking part in the many CAV programs. Nominate your students for the Wayne Wray and Jim Bigger prizes, and your colleagues for the Lurlene W.Todd and Angela P. Lloyd awards. Apply for a Professional Development Grant. And, of course, take part in the Essay Contests and Latin Tournament.

Oh, and if you have received this newsletter, but have not yet renewed your CAV membership for this year...get on it...now. Just make your way to the CAV website and click(cavclassics.org/become-a-member/). Perhaps remind a colleague who has never joined that new members get their first year free, and that the Latin Tournament allows students to compete free of charge if their school is registering for the first time or has not registered in the past five years.

Remember that we continue to offer a virtual option for attending our meetings for those unable to make it in person. Let's build on the energy of the start of the year to expand our membership base and participation in the premier organization for promoting Classics in Virginia since 1910!

Valete!
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Director, Latin Tournament

Lexi Harrell
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UVA will be offering its Latin Methods Course again this summer, July 2025 (dates TBD)--

so please stay tuned if you are interested in this course for graduate work, continuing education, recertification, or just for enrichment. Please contact Patty Lister if you have any questions -- pattylister1@gmail.com

LEARNING OPPORTUNITY:

Our own **Susan Stevens**, Professor Emerita of Classics at Randolph College, will be giving a talk at the Maier Museum of Art in Lynchburg on November 12 at 6PM entitled

"A New Sixth-century AD Martyrial Basilica: Bir el Knissia in the Sacred Landscape of Carthage (Tunisia)." It is based on my book, an excavation report which came out in March 2024 in the *Journal of Roman Archaeology Suppl. Series*.

Sounds like a fascinating evening!

<p>Vice President for CAMWS Dr. Erika Zimmermann Damer (University of Richmond) 109 Ryland Hall Richmond, VA 23173 edamer@richmond.edu</p> <p>Members-at-Large Thomas Rose (Randolph-Macon College) thomasrose@rmc.edu</p> <p>Kate Tiffany (Fairfax High School) kate.tiffany@gmail.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>CAV Professional Development Grant</u></p> <p>If you are planning to participate in any professional development or other activities to help you be a better teacher of the classics, CAV can help you pay for it. We will give up to \$100 for local activities and up to \$300 for more adventurous endeavors. You can apply for a grant at bit.ly/CAVGrant. Applications are due by April 30. Recipients will be announced soon thereafter. If you have any questions, you can e-mail Amy Petersen at MagistraP@gmail.com.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">VIRGINIA GOVERNOR'S LATIN ACADEMY</p>	<p>Applications for Teachers and Resident Assistants for the 2025 Virginia Governor's Latin Academy are being accepted. This summer's academy will be held June 22-July 13, 2025, at Randolph-Macon College.</p> <p>If you are interested in applying, please contact the Coordinator of the Latin Academy, Bartolo Natoli (bartolonatoli@rmc.edu)</p>

<p style="text-align: center;">ACL Institute 2025 June 30-July 2, 2025 Loyola University, Chicago, IL</p> <p>See www.aclclassics.org for further information.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">NJCL 2025 July 21-16, 2025 Miami University, Oxford, Ohio</p> <p>http://www.njcl.org/NJCL-Convention/2025-NJCL-Convention</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">RANDOLPH-MACON COLLEGE (RMC) SATURDAY SEMINAR</p>	<p>The RMC Saturday Seminar for Latin Teachers will be held this Spring 2025. Paper titles and registration will be shared in January. Stay tuned!</p>

ANGELA P.
LLOYD
&
LURLENE W.
TODD

AWARDS

**Big News! We've streamlined the applications for the
Angela P. Lloyd and Lurlene W. Todd Awards!**

NOMINATIONS FOR:
THE ANGELA P. LLOYD BOOK AND
THE LURLENE W. TODD TEACHER OF THE YEAR
AWARDS

In order to streamline the process and encourage more nominations for these two awards, the nomination processes are being combined into one! Both awards are open from June 1, 2024 through April 1, 2025.

The Angela P. Lloyd Book Award is for a colleague who is:

- A high school or middle school teacher in Virginia (public or private) who is also a member of the Classical Association of Virginia
- Demonstrating commitment to teaching
- Demonstrating excellence in teaching
- Participating in CAV meetings or have students who participate in CAV contests

The Lurlene Todd Teacher of the Year Award is for a colleague who is an outstanding teacher of Classics, Latin, Greek, or Archaeology in Virginia at any instructional level.

Any person may submit a name for consideration for either award by completing this nomination form [TODD & LLOYD AWARD LINK](#) which includes a space for comments and recommendations. This includes a colleague, supervisor, student (current or former), parent of a student (current or former), or a member of the general community who appreciates the work of a CAV member.

If you prefer to send a letter of recommendation, please limit your comments to one page if possible; do not exceed two pages.

Please send to Lori Kissell fulvia52bce@gmail.com if choosing to send a letter.

<p>CAV Teacher Placement Service</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">CAV TEACHER PLACEMENT SERVICE</p> <p>Do you know of a Latin teaching position in your area? Or are you currently searching for a Latin teaching position? The CAV Placement Service offers a free program to bring together teachers seeking Latin positions in Virginia and schools in Virginia which are seeking Latin teachers. Schools send us listings of their positions, and we send these listings by e-mail to the teachers who have registered with the CAV Placement Service. We provide continuous updates from March until September. If you know of a position available, have the school principal or personnel office get in touch with the service. If you wish a position, send in your name and e-mail address. We ask schools and teachers to contact Jon D. Mikalson by e-mail at: jdm9x@virginia.edu. There are no charges for these services!</p>
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Hey y'all! Heads up for this information from our new Tournament Director, Lexi Harrell

93RD ANNUAL CAV LATIN TOURNAMENT EXAMINATIONS

The exams are designed to test the student's mastery of the Latin language and, in the case of the upper level exams, some basic literary matter at that particular level of study. Exams will consist of questions on vocabulary, forms, syntax, (where appropriate) rhetorical and poetic devices, and reading passages for translation to show active and accurate comprehension.

TESTS OFFERED:

There are five tests offered, depending on the level of the student. A syllabus for each exam may be found on the CAV website. The tests are:

- Introduction to Latin (Latin IA students)
- Beginning Latin (Latin I students)
- Intermediate Latin (Latin II students)
- Advanced Latin (Latin III students)
- Latin Literature Prose: based upon prose authors including Cicero and Caesar, as well as Livy, Seneca, Pliny or others (Latin IV +)
- Latin Literature Poetry: based upon authors such as Vergil, Catullus, Ovid, Horace, and other poets (Latin IV +)

STRUCTURE OF COMPETITION:

Schools in Virginia may compete in one of three divisions:

- Alpha (secondary and intermediate public schools)
- Beta (independent and private schools)
- Gamma (charter, magnet, and governor's schools)

All teachers entering contestants MUST be members of the CAV. Not yet a member? Join today!

REGISTRATION (online this year!): LINK WILL BE ON THE CAV WEBSITE Teachers must submit their registration form by Friday, February 14, 2025. Competition fee is \$3.00 per student, non-refundable.

Try the tournament for free your first year! Your students may compete free of charge if your school is registering for the first time or has not registered in the past five years.

SYLLABUS & FURTHER INFORMATION: Please visit the CAV website (www.cavclassics.org) or email Lexi Harrell, the Latin Tournament Director: (lexi_harrell@ccpsnet.net).

MORE CONTEST INFORMATION!

2025 CLASSICAL ESSAY CONTEST TOPICS

The CAV Classical Essay Contest recognizes those students who have submitted outstanding essays in English on a topic appropriate to each level or class. The contest is open to students in the public and private middle and high schools of Virginia, and homeschoolers, whose teachers are current members of the Classical Association of Virginia.

Essays shall be submitted in English on the following topics in the following divisions:

- Latin I: Let's Stroll through the Roman Forum
- Latin II: From the Lararium to Olympus: What Religion Meant to an Average Roman
- Latin III: Cicero: Odd Man Out in the Power Politics of the Late Republic
- Advanced Latin (Latin III and above):
 - Vergil: The Death of Turnus: Evaluate the Ending of the Aeneid
 - History: Oro Ut Faciatis: Campaigning and Voting in Ancient Rome
 - Poetry: Cupid in Ovid's Amores

N.B. Latin 3 students who do the general third year topic will be judged only with other Latin 3 students. They may also submit an essay in one of the advanced topics, and they will be judged in the same pool as all entries.

N.B. Students in Latin III and above may submit essays on more than one topic.

N.B. Latin1I: If there are sufficient entries, there may be two judging pools: one for middle school and one for high school.

N.B. Unless they make a written request otherwise, students are giving the CAV permission to publish their names and work in any official publications. Winners will be announced and prizes awarded at the Spring meeting.

Essays should be roughly 1000 words, typed double space. The pages of the essay must be numbered. The first page of the essay may include a title. The student's name and school must not appear on any page of the essay.

Each entry must come with a COVER PAGE that includes:

- Name of the contestant;
- Name and address of the school;
- Name of the teacher;
- Year of Latin studied in '24 - '25 (1st, 2nd, etc.);
- Student grade level;
- Level of contest;
- Essay topic

Essays should present a clear, coherent synthesis of material researched. It is also the policy to accept essays that are closer to creative writing exercises than to the traditional expository essay, provided that the same amount of factual content and critical thought is in evidence. The fee is \$2.00 per student. Ineligible entries will be discarded. Teachers who are not members of CAV should send their \$20.00 dues with the entrance fee. Make checks payable to the Classical Association of Virginia.

Postmark Deadline: Feb. 21 st , 2025

Mail all entries and fees to:
Patrick Bradley

Director, CAV Classical Essay Contest
Rockbridge County High School
143 Greenhouse Road
Lexington, VA 24450

Full information: <https://www.cavclassics.org/classical-essay-contest/>

Questions? Contact: patrick_bradley@rockbridge.k12.va.us

And we're not done - here's still more!

Arthur F. Stocker Latin Essay Contest Spring 2025

The contest is free and open to all K–12 Latin students of C.A.V. members. Encourage your students to participate—for the experience, not just glory!

TOPIC, SAME ALL LEVELS:

Ceres (Demeter) et Proserpina (Persephone)

story or essay, freely interpreted as the student wishes
(First Year Latin 100-200 words, Second 150-250, Third 200-300)

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**OR, FREE WRITING:**

Story on any topic freely interpreted as the student wishes.  
(First Year Latin 100-200 words, Second 150-250, Third 200-300)

NB: teachers can give a specific topic in class that could then be entered for the  
free write option(s)

**Receipt Deadline: Monday, March 17, 2025**

Teachers, with the new format, make especially sure the essay indicates level.

SUBMISSION:

**Paper:** Dr. Andrew S. Becker  
Latin and Ancient Greek Langs, Lits, and Cultures  
Modern and Classical Languages and Literatures, Virginia Tech  
220 Stanger St. (0225), Blacksburg VA 24061-0225

**Electronic:** [abecker@vt.edu](mailto:abecker@vt.edu) (PDF or MSWord)

Full information: <https://www.cavclassics.org/latin-essay-contest/>

Each entry must include the contestant's full name, level, school, and teacher

**And very importantly, please read and submit nominations for these student awards!**

**CAV STUDENT AWARDS**

The Classical Association of Virginia is pleased to offer **TWO SCHOLARSHIPS** for Latin students.

The **Wayne Wray Student Scholarship** is awarded thanks to an ongoing generous gift from Wayne W. Wray. This \$500.00 scholarship will be awarded to the student who most exemplifies a love of and the promotion of the classics. The Wayne Wray Scholarship will be awarded to a student who is passionate about Latin and has demonstrated enthusiasm on every level: in their daily classroom work, participation in club activities, and promotion of Latin within their school and/or community. While participation in CAV (and other) contests is preferred, the primary focus of this scholarship remains the student's ability to "spread the word" about classics and encourage others to study Latin.

The **Jim Bigger Memorial Scholarship**, funded by donations from CAV members, is given to honor the memory of long-time Virginia teacher and CAV member Jim Bigger. This \$500 scholarship will be awarded to a deserving senior who excels academically and who intends to continue their study of Latin and/or Greek in college.

Any CAV member may nominate any student who is taking or has completed four or more years of Latin and/or Greek. There may be more than one nominee per school. These scholarships are not based on financial need and are not renewable. Students and teachers do not need to indicate which award they are applying to – the selection committee will determine the two awards from all applicants. Send the teacher's nominating letter, the student's letter explaining his or her relationship with Latin and worthiness for either scholarship, and a list of honors and awards the student has earned to Donald Brewster at [donald\\_brewster@woodberry.org](mailto:donald_brewster@woodberry.org).

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CAV News submissions for issues to be published on Aug 15, Nov 1, Apr 1, June 15 –
Please send newsletter items to fulvia52bce@gmail.com for the newsletter editor.

Please notify us directly when your email address changes! Send changes to CAVClassics@gmail.com

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