

Name: **Fatima Attia** School: **Fargo North** Current Grade: **11**

Running for: **2nd Vice President.**

What Goals do you have for the office you are seeking?

The goals I have for NDJCL that relate to the office I am seeking is to introduce JCL to a variety of service opportunities that are available to US! The members of JCL, are all wonderful, hardworking people who could greatly benefit our community with larger involvement in service. Especially due to Covid 19, the need for service is greater now than ever before. I would consider starting a campaign called "strength in Service" where JCL could spread the word about the importance of service ,and involve itself in more service than ever before! Furthermore in local JCL events, I would hope to incorporate service more, whether its through writing cards to others, making items such as placemats for them to enjoy, canned item/clothing drives, working with Key Club, etc.! Finally, I have the goal of increasing JCL membership, as I think JCL is a club that has so many wonderful characteristics to offer!

What makes you qualified for the office you are seeking?

I am qualified for this office as I am currently the local 2nd Vice President for JCL at Fargo North. Through my position I have gotten to involve JCL in "Fill the Dome", an event in which schools gather canned foods and money to donate to the Great Plains northern bank. With Covid, and the constant changes that have occurred in regards to school, I have not been able to do everything I wanted to regarding service for JCL; however, I would love to do much more for service on the State Level. I have been involved in many clubs and organizations such as Key Club, HOSA, Student Council, Environmental club, student congress, and speech, which have made me well rounded. My public speaking clubs have allowed for me to gain confidence in advocating for what I believe in and fighting for what's right! Additionally, in these clubs I have had positions of president, captain, vice president, secretary in my clubs in school which have taught me how to be responsible and an effective leader. Furthermore, service is a big part of my life and since the duties of 2nd vice president include supervising fund raising projects and community service projects this is something that I am very passionate about. I am involved in Fargo Youth Initiative which is an organization that serves to bridge the gap between youth and the city of Fargo. On this I serve on the Mental health committee and this had educated me on many ways in which our community can improve mental health. Also I am on Level Up, which is a coalition that serves to decrease substance abuse among students, which has also educated me in ways that I could bring to a Second VP position. Finally, I recently became the lieutenant governor for all division 2a schools for Key club, and key club's focus on serving others would correlate very well to the obligations of a second VP! Despite my involvement in many clubs/activities, if elected to be the Second

Vice President, I would prioritize this position and would put in a lot of time and effort to do a great job at my position!

Please share a brief interesting story or favorite memory from a past State or National JCL Convention that you have attended.

One of my favorite memories was during state JCL last year. We had a 'contest' where we would make a Greek mythological creature, and my group made birds. We used various art tools and materials and also made a description about our 'birds' and it was a very fun and creative experience! I worked with Ingrid and Laura, and since they are both involved in journalism and writing, the description that they came up with to go with the image was very entertaining for me!

What story from Classical mythology do you like most or hold dearest? Why?

Pandora's Box is the story from Classical mythology that I like the most. Pandora opened a box which released many evils into the world and yet hope remained in the jar. This is important because it showed that no matter what negative aspects of the world we face, with hope in the world there is always something positive to look forward to! I think that despite the fact that this a myth, it is something that we can keep in mind in our daily lives to encourage ourselves!

What makes JCL so special to you?

JCL is very special to me due to the community that it has. JCL has fostered an environment where I have met and become friends with many incredible people! JCL not only celebrates the classics, but it also educates members on a variety of topics, and allows for students like me to become better people and community members overall!

Name: **Sydney Carrell**

School: **Fargo South**

Current Grade: **11**

Running For: **1st Vice President**

What Goals do you have for the office you are seeking?

I really hope to encourage more schools in our state that offer a classical language to join the family of NDJCL, along with encouraging others to run for state offices from all schools that attend. Also, keep NDJCL members as organized as possible. Making sure all events have the right amount of publicity to get the word out.

What makes you qualified for the office you are seeking?

I have been a DSJCL, NDJCL, and NJCL member for the past three years and have not missed a local district meeting since! I was also our second vice president my sophomore year and am currently our first vice president. I have good organization skills and know how to advertise and gain publicity especially through social media.

Please share a brief interesting story or favorite memory from a past State or National JCL Convention that you have attended.

My favorite memory from a past state or national convention would have to be Nationals in 2019 when it was hosted locally in Fargo. I made amazing new friends and found my JCL spirit. The atmosphere in the dome was amazing with everyone showing their spirit and there was no feeling quite like that.

What story from Classical mythology do you like most or hold dearest? Why?

My favorite story from classical mythology would have to be Echo and Narcissus. Although the story is quite sad, I believe it has a beautiful message behind it and shows the true love that Echo had for Narcissus even though he did not return the feelings.

What makes JCL so special to you?

JCL is so incredibly special to me. I have met so many different people and friends through JCL. It has given me new opportunities and a place to be able to be myself. It is a community that is so welcoming and full of laughs and happy memories.

Name: **Erika Spanjer** School: **Fargo North** Current Grade: **11**

Running For: **Parliamentarian**

What Goals do you have for the office you are seeking?

I have two main goals for NDJCL as the parliamentarian. First, I would like to initiate updating the constitution. This includes clarifying parts like the election process. I am also flexible and understanding so if there are any significant changes to the already existing constitution, I would be open minded and diligent in that process. Second, I would like to recruit candidates for offices. As a captain in tennis, we went from three people participating in captains practices to 20 people in less than a year; we attained this by personally contacting players, sending out motivational messages, and setting a positive example --all tactics I would employ as parliamentarian.

What makes you qualified for the office you are seeking?

I am qualified for this position for several reasons. Currently, I am local parliamentarian for JCL at North, giving me parliamentary experience specific to JCL. I am proficient with Parliamentary Pro because I am a previous member of CCYC which strictly adhered to the process. For my specific duties, I have great organizational skills to help future elections run smoothly. For my duties as a board member, I am extremely comfortable with communication and collaboration with other officers because I am on the board of Fargo Youth Initiative, Eco-Club, and Key Club.

Please share a brief interesting story or favorite memory from a past State or National JCL Convention that you have attended.

At the last State JCL convention, there were multiple memories I made and still cherish. I grew closer to some North JCL members because we spontaneously formed teams for the competitive part of NDJCL and we instantly started connecting and being comfortable around each other. I also distinctly remember laughing very much while trying to be productive at the arts and crafts table; I love how NDJCL expands my horizons in a fun, low-stress learning and growing environment.

What story from Classical mythology do you like most or hold dearest? Why?

The Amazonian women created a highly productive society with a government led solely by women. The government comprised only of women and their resulting productive society proves to me that women are just as capable as men, and not “too emotional” for politics. These women were one of the early markings of strong female leadership, and being a feminist myself, they give me inspiration to enter male-dominated industries with confidence and competence.

What makes JCL so special to you?

NDJCL holds a special place in my heart because there is a unique close community we’ve built across schools which is not common for other clubs or organizations. I also cherish the positive energy at all of our events and the academic challenges that keep it interesting.

Name: **Anika Arifin**

School: **Fargo North**

Current Grade: **11**

Running For: **President**

What Goals do you have for the office you are seeking?

My first goal for office is to expand and maintain communication statewide. Discord has many benefits, however notifications for events and announcements are not always reliable.

I have found that even when I have notifications turned on, I rarely receive the corresponding announcement and I constantly have to check the app. Therefore, I would use GroupMe to better reach people statewide because notifications are faster and more dependable. I would also keep the current means of communication such as Remind and Discord for those who prefer it. The second goal I have for office is to expand events and outreach across the state. I have been on board for two years now both during a normal year and a pandemic year. I would maintain traditional and some pandemic era aspects of JCL next year if it is a normal year. For example, in terms of the traditional aspect I would maintain that the state board makes a promo video for state NDJCL to increase attendance. (This is usually done in a normal year but wasn't because of the pandemic) . I would also keep some pandemic era aspects of JCL as well. Zoom Game nights was a very well received community event that reached and brought together both Fargo and Mandan schools.

What makes you qualified for the office you are seeking?

In terms of state level offices, I have been on NDJCL board for two years now. During my sophomore year I was the 2019-2020 Webmaster and during my current junior year I am the 2020-2021 parliamentarian. For local offices I was the 2019-2020 secretary for FNJCL. I have gone to NDJCL state for three years now starting from my freshmen year and I have been to Nationals twice: first in 2019 and then in 2020 virtually. As a person I am understanding and flexible and if there were any modifications that were to take place I would be open minded and efficient. In terms of other activities I am captain for Debate and co-president for Environmental Club at North.

Please share a brief interesting story or favorite memory from a past State or National JCL Convention that you have attended.

I went to nationals during the summer of 2019 and I was so surprised and delighted in regards to JCL's expansive community. I met so many people from all across the state, whether it be playing air hockey against kids from New Jersey or having a cup of coffee with a fellow NDJCL delegate. My all-time best memory has to be during The Roman Procession when everyone proceeded to the FargoDome and all the states dressed up shouting and cheering for the spirit competition. I definitely lost my voice that day!

What story from Classical mythology do you like most or hold dearest? Why?

The love of Orpheus and Eurydice is genuine and wholesome and even though their ending is tragic the story is still one of the best from the classics. I also really enjoy the theme of love being stronger than death itself. (Orpheus bending the will of Hades) The myth has been transformed into a Broadway performance called Hadestown and honestly the stage production does the myth some good justice.

What makes JCL so special to you?

The opportunities, community, and memories I have made in JCL are uniquely different from any other club/activity I have ever been in. For one JCL has fostered a love of the classics for me and I have also found a community that creates an atmosphere of acceptance. I have grown so much as a person in this organization, and I have created so many great memories with my fellow JCLers across the nation and the state.

Name: **Spring Ma**

School: **Fargo North**

Current Grade: **11**

Running For: **1st Vice President**

What Goals do you have for the office you are seeking?

- 1. Maintain communication (via email, discord) with local chapters and continue to seek new interested chapters and individuals.**
- 2. Increase membership and encourage active participation by promoting media (paper & online) and NDJCL activities.**
- 3. Assist the president and the rest of the board when necessary or needed.**
- 4. Determine needs, campaigns, or new ideas of all chapters and report them to the board.**
- 5. Assist in a goal mentioned by the current JCL board: Bring JCL into the community by transforming the club into a nonprofit.**

What makes you qualified for the office you are seeking?

I am currently the NDJCL secretary, making me an individual who is familiar and knowledgeable of the operations on the NDJCL state board. I have thoroughly read through the Duties of the 1st VP and understand the responsibilities for serving in this position. I have also been an active and passionate member of JCL upon entering high school. In addition, pertaining to my 5th goal: I am the Executive Director of a local nonprofit "Resonate". Thus, I am familiar with the procedures to help an organization become a nonprofit and have the ability to help direct one.

Please share a brief interesting story or favorite memory from a past State or National JCL Convention that you have attended.

I love simply being in JCL. It is such a cozy club composed of amazing people! To be specific, my favorite memory was by far the night meetings at the NJCL Convention, where everyone sat together on couches and shared their stories and reflected on the day. The experience made me motivated to involve in and contribute to the JCL family even more than I had been.

What story from Classical mythology do you like most or hold dearest? Why?

My favorite story from mythology is that of Medusa. Although mostly portrayed as the antagonist in Perseus' heroic story, Medusa was actually a kind and beautiful priestess of Athena. She was forced to break her vow to celibacy after she supposedly had an "affair with" (was raped by) Poseidon. She was then forced to accept the blame for her vow, and everyone portrayed her as an evil and untruthful mistress. This story makes me question the way by which we interpret different stories/rumors that we hear in real life, and whether we do have enough information to draw a conclusion for a certain individual/event based on what we receive.

What makes JCL so special to you?

All the dearest memories, created through my experience as an officer and participation at JCL activities, sum together to my love for JCL. I deeply enjoy the time spent with members of this club and have grown tremendously through learning Latin. JCL has provided guidance and affection both in my education and my social life throughout high school. I will always strive to promote the love in this kind family.

Name: **Jaron Dufault**

School: **North High**

Current Grade: **11**

Running For: **Secretary**

What Goals do you have for the office you are seeking?

I want to work with the 1st VP to help them get some more chapters started up in Grand Forks, Bismarck, or Williston. Other than that, I don't really have super specific goals. I just want to be a helping hand in whatever situations arise, and I would also like to be a leader not just on the board but in JCL as well. I feel that the office of Secretary has the most flexibility in achieving that.

What makes you qualified for the office you are seeking?

I was the 2020 FNH and State JCL Webmaster, meaning I have experience on the State Board. I am also a great leader in the classroom, taking charge of discussions and letting others speak when they want/need to. I am very organized and rarely forget about important events, and I keep a calendar of important events that are coming up. Most of all, however, I am a very loyal and diligent person, committed to whatever task I say "yes" to doing.

Please share a brief interesting story or favorite memory from a past State or National JCL Convention that you have attended.

At the 2019 National Convention, my roommates and I decided to get pizza for dinner in our dorm room. We didn't have any plates, however. Luckily for us, we got frisbees in our gift bags when we got there, and using that along with the toilet paper found in our dorms, we ate pizza off of some frisbees covered in toilet paper, and that was honestly really fun.

What story from Classical mythology do you like most or hold dearest? Why?

This isn't really part of the classical mythos, but it's kind of close-ish. This past year, I played the game "Hades", a rogue-lite based heavily on Greek mythology, and it is one of the best games I've ever played. You play as Zagreus, the Son of Hades, and you're trying to break free from the Underworld. The Olympians, thinking that you want to join them, help you in escaping from Hades' realm. Along the way, you meet various characters from the Greek mythos who help and harm you in your journey. The game has everything: great combat, engaging characters and dialogue, a great art style, the best soundtrack in any video game, and it's a freaking dating simulator if you want it to be. Please spend the \$25 it costs (it's on both the Nintendo Switch and Steam) and get the game.

What makes JCL so special to you?

No matter where anyone comes from, JCL can be enjoyed by all.

The fact that you can do whatever you want to do in JCL is amazing to me. You wanna make friends with everyone at the convention? You can do that! You wanna play sports? You can do that (not this year though, unfortunately). You wanna be a massive nerd (like you aren't one already) and take all the tests and play certamen? You can do that! JCL is the opportunities club in the sense that you can do whatever you want while you're doing it, AND you get to make friends along the way.

Name: **Abhijna Kavasseri**

School: **North High**

Current Grade: **9**

Running For: **Webmaster**

What Goals do you have for the office you are seeking?

I have three main goals for my position of webmaster. First, is to develop our online platform to reach a larger audience. Second, to make moving around and using the webpage faster and more efficient for users. Last, to post more updates on the web page and Instagram to give JCL members a better experience to stay involved!

What makes you qualified for the office you are seeking?

I am qualified for the position of webmaster because I have experience running social media pages for my small business making jewelry which succeeded. I also have set up the Fargo Youth Initiative Instagram page and am currently running it. I also have had experience building websites and managing websites using WIX for class projects and have succeeded.

Please share a brief interesting story or favorite memory from a past State or National JCL Convention that you have attended.

My last state JCL convention (and first!) was the same day that schools were shut down from coronavirus but it was one of the last "normal" moments I had and there was a certain vibe that day that was so fun and really nostalgic now. Also, when we were playing cotillion, my team was just about to lose but I guessed for a random answer that sounded correct and we made it up to 2nd which was super exciting!!

What story from Classical mythology do you like most or hold dearest? Why?

My favorite story is the story of Echo and Narcissus. I always love the stories of Zeus and Hera's relationship and then Hera punishing the one whom Zeus cheated on her with. She's very creative. I also think Narcissus's story gives a good life lesson to stay humble (obviously) and Echo's input is a great addition to the story

What makes JCL so special to you?

JCL is special to me because I love the people there and it is a way to share connections for our love of the classical world. Even though I have only been to one state conference I had one of the most amazing times and it was really special to me.

Name: **Owen Senger**

School: **North High**

Current Grade: **11**

Running For: **Editor**

What Goals do you have for the office you are seeking?

I would like to see The Torch continue to be a newsletter that brings a monthly dose of fun, but also a newsletter that is well-written and engaging. I would like to see the continuation of the games, but also more articles (perhaps about developments related to the Classics or Classical history/historiography/anthropology in the modern world) of a more serious tone. Ideally, The Torch can be both informative and enjoyable. I would like to add a recurring

column which serves as a digest of articles that the writers and I have found interesting and Classically-related during the given month.

What makes you qualified for the office you are seeking?

I would hope that my command of the English language would serve me in this role. However, I also know that editing is more than just proofreading. Editing involves a host of other challenges. (Following style, setting up a cohesive visual profile, etc.) While I have no prior experience editing a text-based platform, I have run 3 podcasts and am thus equipped to handle the role of editor, being the one whom content must pass through for review, cutting away what content doesn't work, etc. I am also used to corralling co-hosts, keeping them on task, making sure they show up, and getting content out on time, which will serve me in dealing with teams of writers and getting the Scroll out on time.

Please share a brief interesting story or favorite memory from a past State or National JCL Convention that you have attended.

I remember coming into the NDSU Memorial Union and getting involved in several card games with various people, including a game of Dutch Blitz with a group of kids from MNJCL. One of those kids, Dorie Bixby, would become a friend after I reconnected with her at NDJCL State Con the next year. I enjoy this memory because it shows how JCL can bring people together and create new friendships.

What story from Classical mythology do you like most or hold dearest? Why?

I have several stories from Greco-Roman myth that I enjoy, but the creation myth is one I enjoy above the rest. Especially as Bullfinch tells it. I don't particularly enjoy it because of the actual content of the myth (creation myths are all quite similar, really, and one who says they enjoy the Greek creation myth is equally served by the Christian, Hindu, or, really, any other creation myth) but Bullfinch's telling of the myth is enjoyable due to the way in which he writes. His writing is a product of his heavily Christian-centric times. He uses hero-worship to explain how pagan gods could coexist with his idea of the Christian God, and yet, somehow he manages to be an entertaining rather than (perhaps as well as) problematic read. Besides classical myth, the Arthurian myths, and medieval European myth more generally are interesting to me.

What makes JCL so special to you?

JCL is most special to me because it makes Latin mean something more than just a class you take to improve your English (which, objectively speaking, is better served by an English composition class) or to learn medical terminology (which, objectively speaking, is better served by an actual Medical Terminology class) or even just to improve your ability to learn languages in general (this is what I think Latin does best.) Latin on its own is simply a class, which you go to for 45 minutes a day, pay attention as best you can, do your

studying, hopefully not bomb the tests, etc. Latin with JCL is your link to a larger community of intellectual, quirky, sometimes-nerdy people with a common interest. The confluence of people at a State or National Convention is what I find even more special. Everyone brings different knowledge, different perspectives, different values. The conversations are always interesting, sometimes entertaining, and rarely (but best) friendship-inducing.

Name: **Maria Lim**

School: **North High**

Current Grade: **11**

Running For: **Historian**

What Goals do you have for the office you are seeking?

If I get elected Historian, I would work to keep the social medias more active by getting pictures of local events and at state events.

What makes you qualified for the office you are seeking?

I tend to be the ones to randomly take pictures when I hang out with my friends because I like to save memories through pictures.

Please share a brief interesting story or favorite memory from a past State or National JCL Convention that you have attended.

The first time I went to State Convention was in 8th grade. I remember being really clueless during the spirit competition because I didn't know any of the cheers. I ended up learning from a junior at the time.

What story from Classical mythology do you like most or hold dearest? Why?

There are many myths I enjoy reading but one that stands out to me is the story of Arachne. Not only does it teach us a good lesson about being too proud but as someone who is scared of spiders, it's an interesting story to know where spiders came from.

What makes JCL so special to you?

JCL is special to me because it was the first extracurricular I joined in high school. I'm most involved with JCL out of the clubs I'm in and I have the most memories regarding national convention and just normal events.