



THE SUMMIT
COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL

Latin Program

Our nationally award-winning Latin program emphasizes academic excellence in the Latin language and classical civilization. In addition to advanced classroom curriculum, Summit Latin students interact with the community through service projects and have diverse opportunities to develop strengths, practice leadership skills, showcase artistic talent and demonstrate academic excellence through organized local, state and national competitions. Our Latin Club routinely wins state championships and many students have even won state and national titles. Students also routinely earn top awards on academic tests, such as the National Latin Exam and the Medusa Mythology Exam, and several students been awarded college scholarships because of their Latin proficiency. Summit students have been elected as state officers of the Ohio Junior Classical League every year since 1998.

The study of Latin helps students in very tangible ways:

- Latin aids critical thinking skills and attention to detail.
- Latin provides a foundation for the future study of modern languages.
- Latin promotes better understanding of English. Of all the words in the English language, six out of ten originated from Latin. Ninety percent of words with three or more syllables come from Latin.
- Research indicates that students who take Latin perform better on standardized tests, such as the SAT and ACT.



All sixth graders are required to take Introduction to Latin. Students who choose to continue in Latin enjoy a classroom curriculum that goes from Latin 1 to AP Latin and even Honors Ancient Greek.

The Latin Club promotes academics, the arts, friendship and community service. It meets weekly for a “Latin Lunch” and frequently after school. With more than 100 members each year in grades 7-12, the club is one of the largest in the area. Attendance at Latin Club events is voluntary, so students can participate as their extracurricular and academic schedules allow. In after-school sessions, students discuss mythology, classical culture, history, derivatives and advanced language study. Latin Club officers meet weekly to plan activities such as a movie/pizza night, toga bowling and community service projects.



Celebration of the Classics is an annual academic event at which students connect with a major work of literature from classic civilization through art projects, presentations, academic tests and a Jeopardy-style competition called Certamen. Participation

in these events prepare students for state and national ompetition.

Certamen is a Latin word meaning “competition.” Students participate as teams to answer questions encompassing all aspects of the classical world. The Summit has hosted

a Certamen competition for Cincinnati schools more than two decades. Certamen competitions every year. Top students can earn spots on Certamen teams at the state competition in March and the national competition in the summer. The Summit program has a tradition of excellence in Certamen, with numerous state and national titles. Summit Certamen participants usually meet after school to prepare for competition.

National exams throughout the year offer ribbons, certificates, medals and sometimes cash awards for top scorers. Summit graduates who have demonstrated excellence on these exams and competitions have won scholarships by the National Junior Classical League and the National Latin Exam. Among these national exams are: National Mythology Exam, Medusa Mythology Exam, National Latin Exam, National Greek Exam (seniors only), National Classical Etymology Exam, National Roman Civilization Exam, National Latin Vocabulary Exam, "Classical Association of Middle and Western States" Sight Translation Contest (AP students only) and Classical Literacy Exam.



Students in the Latin Honor Society must maintain an "A" average in Latin through the first three quarters, demonstrate dedication and enthusiasm for the language and participate in at least four events sponsored by the Latin Club.

The Ohio Junior Classical League Convention is held annually in March, attracting over 500 Latin students from across Ohio. Typically, about 30-40 Summit Latin students attend the weekend event in Columbus. Students have fun, meet students from around the state and earn awards in academics, graphic arts, and performance arts.

The Latin Honor Society is an honorary organization for students who have exhibited excellence in the study of the Latin language. The annual induction ceremony is in May.

The National Junior Classical League Convention is held annually every July on a college campus around the country. The Summit organizes a group of students who travel together to this event.

