

THE TORCH

UNIVERSITY SCHOOL of MILWAUKEE

2024-2025 year review





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introduction



Salvete omnes! (Hello everyone!)

Welcome to the second edition of the USM Torch, the University School of Milwaukee's Latin newspaper!

As we reflect on the 2024-25 school year, we celebrate our Latin program's outstanding progress and achievements.

This year, we saw great success at the Wisconsin Junior Classical League (WJCL) convention- from having our students get remarkable testing results to seeing one of our members elected to be the WJCL state board president to even winning a spirit award as a school.

Furthermore, USM's Latin students performed exceptionally well on the National Latin Exam. We also hosted our second annual Latin Club fundraiser, held club elections, and launched a website (usmlatinclub.com) and an Instagram page (@usm_latinclub).

Our Latin club's dedication and passion for Latin have resulted in astounding accomplishments, and we look forward to continuing this momentum in the years to come!



meet the officers



RAYA EL-HAJJAR - PRESIDENT

Favorite Subject: English
Favorite Meal of the Day: Lunch
Favorite Color: Pink
Favorite Animal: Tiger
Favorite Candy: Twizzlers
Favorite Season: Summer
Favorite Province of the Roman Empire
in 117 AD: Hispania
Favorite Latin Declension: 1st



READ TUTTLE: 1ST VP

Favorite Subject: Physics
Favorite Meal of the Day: Dinner
Favorite Color: Navy blue
Favorite Animal: Koala
Favorite Candy: Twix
Favorite Season: Summer
Favorite Province of the Roman Empire
in 117 AD: Britannia
Favorite Latin Declension: 1st



ROSHNI SHARMA: 2ND VP

Favorite Subject: Spanish
Favorite Meal of the Day: Lunch
Favorite Color: Pink
Favorite Animal: Bunnies
Favorite Candy: Peach Rings
Favorite Season: Fall
Favorite Province of the Roman Empire
in 117 AD: Aquitania
Favorite Latin Declension: 5th



MIA LUCKE : CO-CO

Favorite Subject: Latin/English
 Favorite Meal of the Day: Snacks!
 Favorite Color: Brown
 Favorite Animal: Squirrels!!
 Favorite Candy: Twizzlers/skittles
 Favorite Season: Spring
 Favorite Province of the Roman Empire in 117 AD: Cyprus / Sicilia
 Favorite Latin Declension: 3rd



AIDA EL-HAJJAR: HISTORIAN

Favorite Subject: Biology
 Favorite Meal of the Day: Dinner
 Favorite Color: Red
 Favorite Animal: Goats
 Favorite Candy: Almond joy
 Favorite Season: Fall
 Favorite Province of the Roman Empire in 117 AD: Arabia
 Favorite Latin Declension: 3rd



ANAND GEORGE: TREASURER

Favorite Subject: Science
 Favorite Meal of the Day: Dinner
 Favorite Color: Blue
 Favorite Animal: Dog
 Favorite Candy: Reese's Peanut Butter Cups
 Favorite Season: Summer
 Favorite Province of the Roman Empire in 117 AD: Sicilia
 Favorite Latin Declension: nominative?



ESHAAN VASUDEV: WJCL PRESIDENT

Favorite Subject: Latin
 Favorite Meal of the Day: Dinner
 Favorite Color: Silver
 Favorite Animal: Swan
 Favorite Candy: Gummies
 Favorite Season: Spring
 Favorite Province of the Roman Empire in 117 AD: Achaia
 Favorite Latin Declension: 5th

WJCL RESULTS

At the 2025 WJCL (Wisconsin Junior Classical League) Convention, USM won second in spirit in our division and got second for qualitative points, as well as many top 10 finishes from individual tests. Eshaan Vasudev 26' was also elected from WJCL Secretary to WJCL President!



NLE RESULTS

This year, USM students took the National Latin Exam, which is taken by 100,000 students across the country! Each level took a different exam.

Latin I: Beginning Latin Exam

Latin II: Intermediate Latin Exam

Latin III: Advanced Latin Prose Exam

Latin IV: Advanced Reading Comprehension Exam

Out of that, 11 students earned national recognition! Congratulations to our award winners!

SUMMA CUM LAUDE: GOLD

Eshaan Vasudev (Advanced Prose)

MAXIMA CUM LAUDE: SILVER

Madelyn Hernandez (Advanced Reading Comprehension)

Anand George (Advanced Prose)

Sami El-Hajjar (Intermediate)

Abraham Nash-Resnick (Beginning)

MAGNA CUM LAUDE: BRONZE

Kimball Manning (Advanced Reading Comprehension)

Aida El-Hajjar (Intermediate)

Mia Lucke (Intermediate)

Kirstin Jonhera (Beginning)

CUM LAUDE: HONORABLE MENTION

Benjamin Norman (Advanced Prose)

Read Tuttle (Advanced Prose)

fundraiser



With the USM Latin Club growing in numbers and strength this year, we wanted to ensure that our club has the funds to do many things, whether saving up for a Certamen machine, buying spirit props and T-shirts, or even making more merchandise.

To do this, we decided to host a bake sale at lunch over two days, selling delicious items from banana bread to cookies. Alongside the freshly baked goods, we sold fantastic Latin-themed buttons that captured unique Classical depictions.

The money we made will go towards funding the purchase of certain buzzers, which will aid our teams greatly in practicing Latin-related trivia and new spirit gear for next year's WJCL convention! We now have over \$400 as a club!

Elections

This year was the second year of elections for board positions! 44 USM Latin students voted in this election. Like last year, only the role of President remains appointed by Magister Mills and is designated for a senior.

For the 2025-2026 school year, the USM Latin Club Executive Officers are:

President: Anand George

1st Vice President: Read Tuttle

2nd Vice President: Charles Slocum

Historian: Ben Norman

Treasurer: Zain Alam

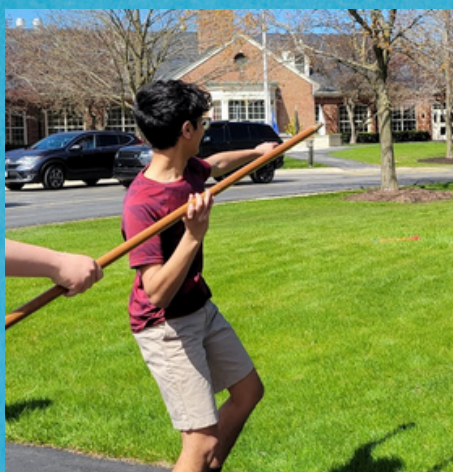
Communications Coordinator: Mia Lucke

Representative Officer: Aida El-Hajjar

Congratulations to our new board members! We are excited to see what this promising team will accomplish in the upcoming year!

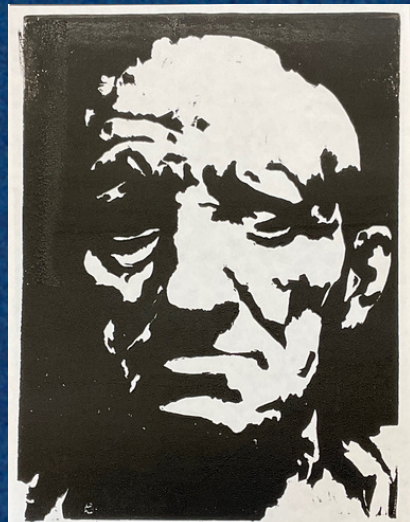
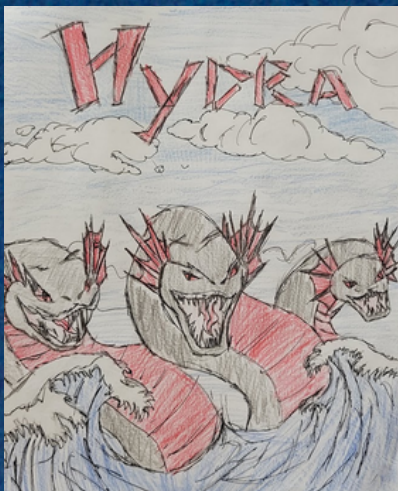
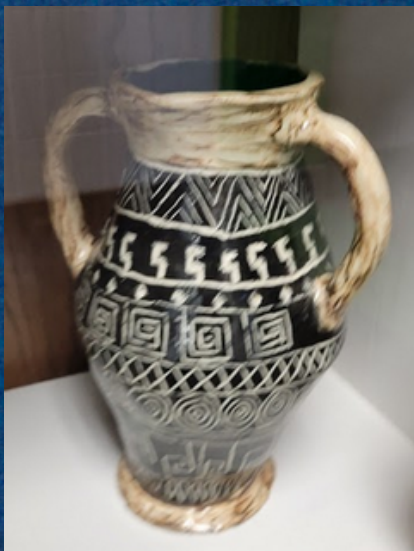
LATIN FUN!

The Latin II and IV classes held Roman Army Days as a hands-on way to explore Roman culture and military history. Students gained a deeper appreciation for the discipline, structure, and daily life of Roman soldiers! Other images include different activities in Latin classes like Roman spells and VR headsets!



Art projects from Latin class!

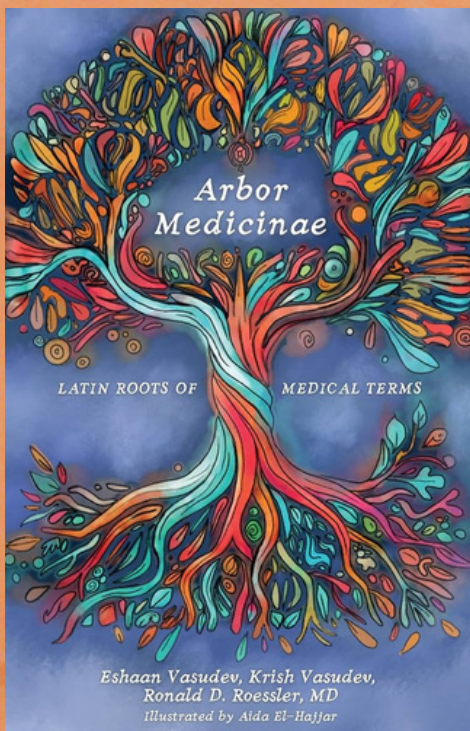
Students were asked to create something from or inspired by the ancient world. They are meant to explore an idea, style, practice, etc. from the ancient world and make something representing it. Their imagination is the limit!



Arbor Medicinae



This year, USM Students Eshaan Vasudev and Aida El-Hajjar, along with USM alumni Krish Vasudev and their mentor Dr. Ronald D. Roessler, MD published a book over a year in the making about the roots of Latin in medical terminology! The book includes many terms derived from Latin, split into sections by system (cardiovascular, skeletal, muscular, etc.) along with hand drawn illustrations throughout. Additionally, each chapter ends with a mythological story tied to a medical term from the chapter's system. Whether you are an aspiring healthcare professional, or just want to know more about how Latin can be used in your day-to-day lives, this book is for you!



If you would like to purchase a copy you can scan these QR codes, attached is the links to the book on amazon and directly from the publishers website... We prefer if you buy from the publisher because Amazon takes a huge cut, but you can do whatever feels peachy to you!



publisher



amazon

50% of all royalties go to supporting the WJCL and NJCL



NOTE FROM THE EDITOR

Salvete, fellow Latin Lovers!

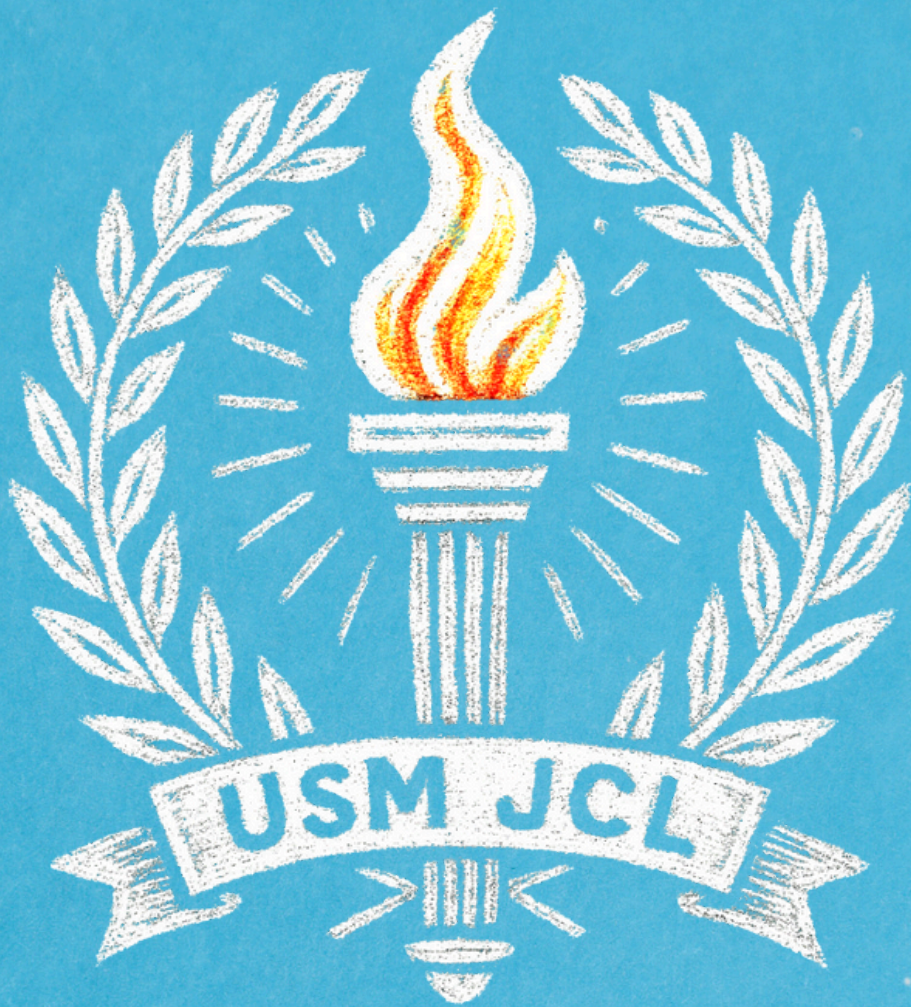
Reflecting on this past year as the USM Latin team, we have much to celebrate. As a team, we've hosted our 2nd fundraiser bake sale and have spread the latin love through roman activities and informational classes hosted by board members for non-latin students during flex. Throughout the year, we've also won countless awards in the NLE and WJCL!!

Thank you all for your hard work and enthusiasm. Here's to another fantastic year of exploring the richness of the Latin language and it's culture!

Valete,
-Aida E

24-25 USM Latin club editor





[USMLATINCLUB.COM](https://usmlatinclub.com)



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