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TORCH

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LAKE TRAVIS HIGH SCHOOL

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Graphic Design by Nancy Wareing



WELCOME TO TRAVIS COUNTRY

Sarah Thompson, TSJCL Editor

Let me be the first to welcome you first to Austin and then to the Lake Travis area. The city of Austin is a somewhat eccentric city that celebrates its independent culture. Central Texas heavily supports music, the arts, and unique small businesses like the shops on South Congress. On weekends most Austin restaurants have live local music and entertainment. Sometimes even while walking downtown you can see musicians and local craft vendors playing and selling on the University drag. Austin being the home of Austin City Limits and the location for the South by Southwest Music and Film Festivals highlights the claim that Austin is The Live Music Capital of the World.

Travis county is about thirty minutes outside of downtown. The area is a little more laid back than Austin itself, but there are still many great places to visit and explore. The main attraction of the area, of course, is Lake Travis. Mansfield Dam Park is a great place to rest, have a picnic, walk around, and put your toes in the water. Restaurants such as Iguana Grill, Carlos and Charlie's, and the Oasis are cool local restraints that have amazing views of the lake. Local franchises such as the Hey Cupcake stand that sells fresh cupcakes from an airstream and Sandy's Hamburgers can also be experienced near the high school. Though it is not as "happening" as downtown, it still has the unique Austin culture and businesses style.

Lake Travis High School itself is large-green campus. I am sure we will not only be comfortable there for the 2010 Convention, but it will also be a lot of fun. Planned events such as a paper airplane contest, Friday night's Athen's vs. Sparta Concert, and the local entertainment provided for the Nutty Brown Awards Ceremony will make this convention one to beat.

Visit the Lake....

Lake Travis that is.

Restaurant Guide

(Listed in order of Distance)

Hey Cupcake

A South Austin Tradition recently opened an airstream across the street from Lake Travis High School.

3595 RR 620 South
Sat. 11am— 10pm

Lohman's Crossings RR 620 Strip Mall (North)

Flores' Mexican, Non La-Asian, Buster's Bar-b-que, ate. Café, Mangieri's Pizza Café

Hill Country Galleria (Bee Cave, TX)

McDonald's, Mimi Café, Pei Wei, Fish City, Iron Cactus, Tony C's Pizza, Zingers, Panera Bread, Which Wich, Jamba Juice, Amy's Ice Cream, Yogurt Planet

Parkway Shops (Bee Cave, TX)

Waterloo, Mandola's Boutiful Bakery, Subway, Blue Bamboo, Viet-Thai

Editor's Picks

(All have views of the Lake)

Iguana Grill

2900 RR 620 N
(512)266-8439

Carlos & Charlie's

5973 Hi Line Rd.
(Off of Hudson Bend)
(512)266-1683

Oasis Restaurant

Comanche Trail
(Off of RR 620)
(512)266-2442

THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Dear TSJCLers,

Now that second semester has come back in full swing, I hope you too have returned with a replenished vigor and enthusiasm for the Junior Classical League. The Area Conventions are fast approaching, giving us all something to prepare for, whether it be by cracking down on those grammar books or finding the inspiration for a piece of art. And these Area Conventions are merely a sample of what's in store down the road: the State Convention. All the board members and I have been working hard to make this another memorable convention. Just this weekend, we toured the facilities of the convention campus (the school really is beautifully planned!) and sampled the meal that we will be providing on the Saturday night. Everything looks great, and I urge you to register for the convention so that you will be able to enjoy all that we've planned. A classical-themed concert, rigorous competition, a final banquet with live entertainment—all will be waiting for you at Lake Travis High School in Austin Texas. See you soon!

Semper,

Julie Chang



Austin Trademark

Sarah Thompson, TSJCL Editor

Keep Austin Weird is a slogan found most everywhere in Central Texas. The Austin Independent Business Alliance adopted the slogan to encourage consumers to shop from local businesses. The phrase is credited to Red Wessenich, a librarian at the local community college, who apparently first spoke the phrase in a phone call to a local radio station. He and his wife started production of the slogan on bumper stickers and handed them out free to local Austinites. The slogan was trademarked by Outhouse Designs and sold on apparel. The slogan is attributed to those small “I think I can” businesses and restaurants that give Austin its unique cultural identity. The movement of support of local business continues to sweep the nations as states and cities as they come up with their own advertisements to support local and small businesses. While you're here, in Austin, I encourage you to follow our movement. I promise you won't regret it.

The Classics Should Be Celebrated!

Ali Campion, St. Andrew's Episcopal Upper School

The Latin language and evidence of the ancient Roman civilization is everywhere. We see it in our English words and in specific architecture around town, but most forget to acknowledge the impact. I, on the other hand, have not forgotten the classical civilization's impact on my present life, because I have had opportunities like attending the St. Andrew's Latin Banquet. Our Latin family comes together to eat food and celebrate the ancient Roman culture that we love.

As I entered our school parking lot for my first Latin Banquet, I thought, "There will be tables of food, a judging area, and it will be over in 30 minutes," but I was wrong. Inside, the Latin Club officers decorated our gymnasium so that each student felt as if they were dining in ancient Rome.

A requirement of our banquet every year is that student dress up in classical costumes. The themes are divided by age. The fifth and the ninth grade students are dressed as slaves. The sixth graders dress as civilians. Seventh and eighth graders become gods and goddesses. Tenth and eleventh graders are dressed as historical or literary figures, and the twelfth graders can choose their characters.

The festivities start with judging the costumes. The seniors listen to all the explanations and stories about costumes and characters. A first, second, and third place award is then given out in each Latin class based on the creativity of their outfits. It is not uncommon to see a Cerberus talking with his best friend Zeus, while Circe, Arachne, and Penelope gossip about Pallas.

While the seniors finish

Judging, all the classes are encouraged to approach the Latin III students to hear presentations about characters that fit into the year's theme. This year the theme was Heroes and Heroines. I, as a Latin III student, spent the previous week researching and preparing for my presentation, while a Latin I class assembled a poster board about my character. It was wonderful to watch children take in the dramatic mythology and history of each character, but we were interrupted by the announcement to take our seats.

The seniors, being leaders in our quest to discover the ancient world, receive special seating. They lie on throws, pillows, and air-mattresses much like the couches in ancient Rome. While the rest of us citizens and slaves sit at gloriously decorated tables. Once everyone is settled our designated priests are invited to come forward to sacrifice a stuffed animal in the name of the ancient gods. The arrival of Juno and Jupiter carried platforms soon follows. After the small ceremony, the "slaves" serve the first course and first glass of grape juice. While eating, plays are put on middle school Latin students. Upon the conclusion of the plays the "slaves" return to clear our area and fetch us our second course. During this course videos about our theme of Heroes and Heroines, made by the Latin II classes, are shown.

Following our third and final course, dessert, the award ceremony wraps up the evening. The parents arrive and younger kids rush to show them their prizes while older students head for their cars. All are exhausted from the activities.

The Latin Club Officers stay



to take down our ancient decorations and prepare the space for school the next day. The only things that end up being left are empty grape juice bottles and empty food trays.

The evidence of our feast may be rotting in the trash by the end of the night, but we keep the memories we have made. Whether the memories are about winning a prize, experiencing slavery, or just eating and talking with close friends, we all know that the reason we are there is to share with each other our love for the classics.

A 24 HOUR CONSTRUCTION OF ROME

Anna Richards, St. Andrew's Episcopal School

The project was artist Liz Glynn's response to the rebuilding of war-ravaged Iraq and post-Katrina New Orleans. In those contexts people frequently cite the phrase "Rome wasn't built in a day." Glynn spent months investigating Roman architecture, but she also toured through the life and death of a whole civilization. She came to learn that classical antiquity refracts truths about our society. All of this inspired her to orchestrate a performance art piece, constructing Rome in histological order within twenty-four hours. She uses recycled materials, but the best part about her project is others are able to participate in construction.



The building started at midnight on September 26, 2009, with the building of Romulus and Remus' huts in 753 B.C.E. The building unfolded approximately at a rate of 1.238 years per minute. One minute before midnight Alaric and Visigoths sacked Rome and it destroyed the small model.

A group of Latin students from St. Andrew's Episcopal School and Carnegie Vanguard from Houston volunteered to help Glynn's effort. St. Andrew's Episcopal started construction in the middle of the Roman Republic. First hand, I witnessed a model of Rome as it was during the time of Vespasian as the Coliseum was erected. Our Latin club knelt on the ground painting the arches on a cardboard model with old paint, some of which was so coagulated we could barely use it. The materials were not pristine, as the artist, in the spirit of eco-friendliness, had asked that all of them be donated for reuse. Our old building materials, in the shape of many famous landmarks, were soon to be broken down-if not by some natural historical disaster, at midnight when Rome was officially destroyed. The experience brought Rome's legacy not only to our Latin club, but to the children and adult volunteers. Projects like these immortalize the great society that we Latin students across the nation study.

This inspirational piece not only demonstrated the development of cities and the rise and fall of a civilization, but it also gave us all the opportunity to believe that anything can and will be built or rebuilt.

Candidate Information

J.P. Zeleznak, Parliamentarian

Hello again TSJCLers!

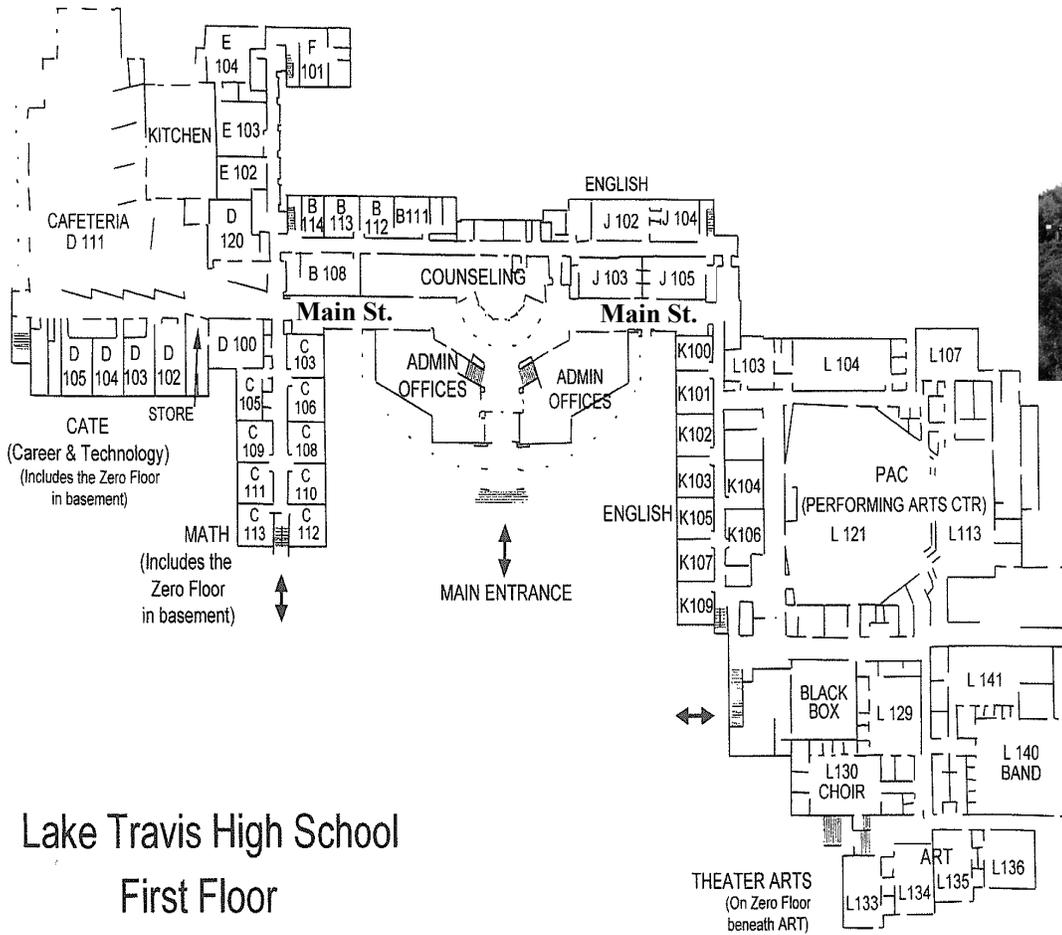
The 2010 TSJCL State Convention is rapidly approaching and with it, elections for the 2010-2011 year. If you are even remotely interested in running for an office, follow the guidelines below.

First, check the TSJCL website for each officer's duties and make a decision about the position for which you would like to run (www.tsjcl.org). It is important that you also consult the by-laws in order to ensure that you meet the requirements for the office you plan to run for. From there, be sure to talk to your sponsor so that he or she can give you all of the proper paper work. Make sure you fill out the application correctly and in neat handwriting. Copies of the application will be available not only in the state registration packet sent to your school, but also online. Once you have completed and mailed your application, you can start preparing for the convention. As a candidate, you are responsible for attending Nominations Committee on Friday, March 26, 2010, and giving a two minute speech in order to introduce yourself to the representatives from each school and formally announce your candidacy. This should be the first time you announce to anyone that you are running for a TSJCL and you may put up campaign materials only after Nominations Committee. In accordance with NJCL policy, you must limit your campaign expenditures to \$40.00 (please provide all receipts and the cost estimate form found in your school's registration packet at Nominations Committee meeting. Failure to adhere to these guidelines could result in your disqualification from running. In addition to your speech at Nominations Committee, all candidates will be required to make a speech at the Elections Assembly on Saturday, March 27, 2010. Your individual speech will be prefaced by an opening statement made by a fellow student who can introduce you to the assembly. Immediately following the Elections Assembly, the Candidates' Open Forum will take place. This is an opportunity for student representatives from each participating school to ask candidates questions and it is a great opportunity to voice your ideas for change and make personal connections with other members of the TSJCL. Make sure that you dress appropriately for the Elections Assembly.

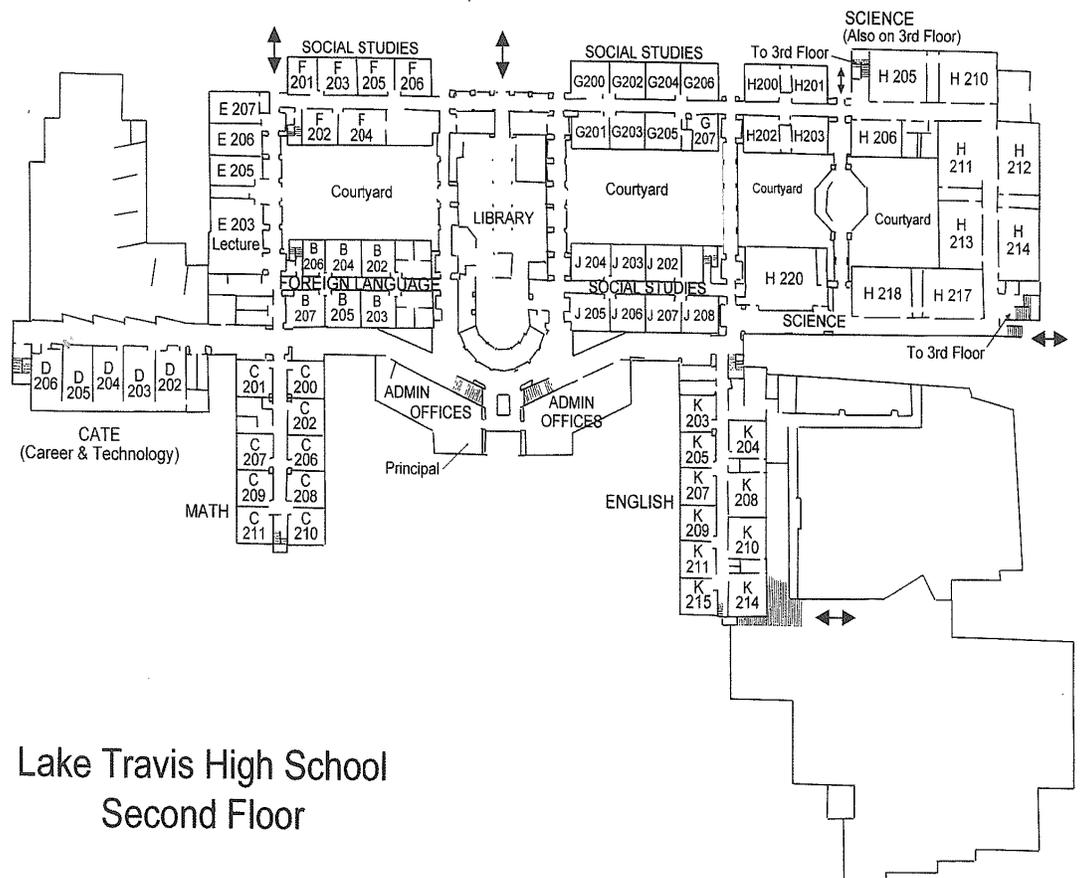
If you are considering running for TSJCL President, National Convention experience is strongly encouraged. Please note that the offices of Parliamentarian, Webmaster, and Editor will not be filled until after the State Convention. However, you are welcome to submit you application for these positions if they should interest you. Remember, all applications for elections should be postmarked no later than March 5th, 2010 and sent to the address on the application. If you have any questions, feel free to email me at parliamentarian@tsjcl.org.

Sincerely,
J.P. Zeleznak
2009-2010 TSJCL Parliamentarian





Lake Travis High School
First Floor



Lake Travis High School
Second Floor

Austin, TX

