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PRESS RELEASE

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Latin Club Thrives at State Competition!

On Thursday, March 12 through Saturday, March 14, 15 members of the Crown Point Latin Club were among 257 students from fourteen schools at the 72nd Annual Indiana Junior Classical League State Convention at Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana. In addition to fun activities such as a “That’s Entertainment” talent show and a Roman Banquet, the convention included a variety of competitions at the individual, team, and club levels.

Individually, our students performed extremely well in these events, receiving **13** individual first-place awards and bringing home **91** individual awards for top-five placings! Lola Coil, CP sophomore was elected to serve as the 2026-2027 IJCL Second Vice President, in which role she will plan service projects and spirit activities for the state. Two Crown Point Latin graduates were also elected as officers of the Indiana Senior Classical League (the college version of our organization) for 2026-2027: Gibson Mehrle (Parliamentarian) and Hayden Smith (Historian). Senior Luke Waldschmidt was also selected to give the opening remarks in the final General Assembly at this year’s convention.

In the much-anticipated Certamen competition (a Jeopardy-style quiz game), the Intermediate (second-year Latin students) Certamen team advanced to the final round and placed third overall; they are coached by Ryan Collier. The Advanced (third and fourth-year Latin students) team placed seventh overall; they are coached by Angela Taraskiewicz. Members competing on the intermediate team were Lola Coil, Addison Kerkes, Joe Williams, and Jeremy Yancey. Members of the advanced team were Jillian Boren, Gabriel Blake, Jacob Boron, Annie Jacobi, Lincoln Vickers, Luke Waldschmidt, and Jack Watson.

At the club level, Crown Point once again performed extremely well. In addition to placing third in the overall sweepstakes competition for large chapters, we earned 2nd place in the Helen Wampler Spirit Contest (entry compiled by Luke Waldschmidt and Asher McAlvey, Consuls). We achieved second place in the Dennis M. Bartlow Publicity Contest (organized by Jillian Boren, Praetor). We placed third in the Local Publications Contest (organized by June Kilarski, *Tempus Canis* Chair), fourth in the Traditional Scrapbook Contest (organized by Annie Jacobi), and fifth in the Sharon Gibson Community Service (organized by Jillian Boren, Praetor). We also placed sixth in the Delegate Spirit contest (led by Lincoln Vickers and Jack Watson, Spirit Chairs), seventh with our chapter t-shirt, and ninth in the Effie Douglas Membership Contest.

We are extremely proud of all of our students for their dedication and enthusiasm for the study of Latin, and look forward to seeing them compete again at next year’s convention! We are especially proud to report that all 15 students finished in the top five in at least one competition, meaning that they all earned points toward the 1,142 total points that we earned.

The next level of competition for these young people will be the National Junior Classical League Convention from July 21-26 at Indiana University in Bloomington, IN. For more information on this event, see www.njcl.org.

Students in attendance: Zofia Barick, Gabriel Blake, Jillian Boren, Jacob Boron, Lola Coil, Shaun Ipema, Annie Jacobi, Addison Kerkes, Asher McAlvey, Kenneth Ouyang, Lincoln Vickers, Luke Waldschmidt, Jack Watson, Joe Williams, and Jeremy Yancey.

Latin Club Sponsor: Jeremy Walker

Certamen Coaches: Ryan Collier and Angela Taraskiewicz

Chaperones: Diane Blake, Shari Boren, Stacy Coil, Adam Kerkes, and Wanda McAlvey
-written by Jeremy Walker

Pictures (9):

CPHS Latin Club with 2026 state trophies, ribbons, and plaques – [CPStateLatinDelegates2026.jpg](#)

Front row (l to r): Jeremy Yancey, Luke Waldschmidt, Lola Coil, Joseph Williams, Annelise Jacobi

Second row (l to r): Shaun Ipema, Jacob Boron, Addison Kerkes, Jillian Boren, Kenneth Ouyang

Third row (l to r): Gabriel Blake, Asher McAlvey

Top row (l to r): Lincoln Vickers, Jack Watson, Zofia Barick

Jillian Boren, CP Praetor (aka Vice President), with the 2nd place Dennis Bartlow Publicity Ribbon (far left): [BartlowPublicity2026.jpg](#)

Luke Waldschmidt, one of the CP Consuls (Presidents), with the 2nd place Helen Wampler Spirit Ribbon (Chapter of the Year award) (on far right): [Wampler2026.jpg](#)

Lola Coil, CP Latin Club Social Chair, is announced as the 26-27 IJCL 2nd Vice President on stage (in middle): [2ndVP.jpg](#)

CP Intermediate Certamen team is awarded 3rd place ribbons: [Certamen.jpg](#)

Left to right: Addison Kerkes, Joseph Williams, Jeremy Yancey, Lola Coil

CP delegates participate in Spirit competition: [Spirit.jpg](#)

CPHS Latin Club dressed in Roman attire for Spirit Contest: [Toga.jpg](#)

Front row (l to r): Asher McAlvey, Lola Coil, Addison Kerkes

Second row (l to r): Jacob Boron, Annelise Jacobi, Zofia Barick, Joseph Williams

Third row (l to r): Shaun Ipema, Gabriel Blake, Lincoln Vickers, Jack Watson, Jillian Boren, Jeremy Yancey

Crown Point seniors at State:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1EhMUgW768jpAXMpaDoXMOujqUKM1D_GH/view

(l to r) Jack Watson, Jacob Boron, Jeremy Yancey, Jillian Boren, Luke Waldschmidt, Asher McAlvey, Lincoln Vickers

CP Latin Club celebrates after Convention at China Buffet:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1FhSAp_mPBadmvdWqoc4W6ynmzzzZqEne/view?usp=sharing