

Is this your first time going to NJCL convention? Here is some info to help you know what to expect!

First of all, here is the link to the [CONVENTION FAX](#) that NJCL has made, this has all of the information from NJCL, including a tentative schedule and links to all of the contests/project rules.

NJCL convention is pretty similar to our OJCL convention, just spread out over a week instead of 48 hours. There are many of the same activities (and some different ones!) but, just like at state convention, they will often be happening at the same time as one another so you will have to pick and choose how to spend each day. The good news is that the longer time frame allows some activities to happen a few times, so be sure to check your program THOROUGHLY when you get it in order to decide what you will prioritize. Just like OJCL, your program should always be with you as it has everything in it that you need to know for the week!

There are both creative and graphic arts contests at convention. The directions and links below will help confirm whether you need to register before.

**Contests:** Please find the information about [Creative Arts here](#)--several of these contests have deadlines before convention, some as early as July 1

Please find the information about [Graphic Arts here](#)--most of these are registered/submitted AT convention, but a few are due before-hand so please check your specific category's rules carefully.

Please find the information about [Olympika/Ludi here](#)--these also do not require advanced registration, but some need special equipment that you would bring in your luggage in order to participate (e.g. shin guards for soccer).

Finally, if you are interested in playing **Certamen** on Ohio's competitive teams (anyone can play Open Certamen), please email OJCL certamen coordinator Alan Zhang for information and practice schedules. Study materials are linked on both the OJCL and NJCL websites

Throughout your time at nationals you will participate in spirit and general assembly daily. It is important to give spirit your all, especially because nationals is in Ohio this year, which means that Ohio needs to show up and show out. Additionally, do not be on your phone during GA as it is rude to those individuals who are speaking and have spent so long preparing for this.

Additionally, maps and snacks are VERY important!! You will get lost so make sure to put the building you're trying to get to into google maps to find the correct location. I would recommend giving your locations to your friends so you can be found and you can let people know where they need to be if you get there first and vice versa. Food is also vital!! If you are a caffeine

drinker bring some caffeine as these are late nights. Additionally, it is nice to have food to snack on throughout the day and bringing a supply to share with your friends is a good idea.

If you like to stay active apart from ludi, feel free to bring a basketball, volleyball, pickleball, tennis, and more equipment to nationals for a chance to bond with the rest of your delegation and nation (ludi and olympika are the sports contests, they can get silly and the points are mostly for fun...mostly). If that doesn't sound appealing maybe bring a small board game or cards!! There will be plenty of time during the various days for you to stay on top of cross-country training runs or just exercise for fun.