Roman Explorers & LatinSummer: Introducing Children to the Joys of Classics

Salvete, omnes! Ascanius has much to share about the programs that have taken place since last year’s issue of Iter Ascanii, and we are excited to announce our plans for this year!

Student Programs in 2010:
In 2010, Ascanius gave students all across the country an introduction to the world of the Romans. Once again, Ascanius partnered with the American Classical League to offer a workshop for students living near the location of the annual Institute; 40 students attended Roman Explorers North Carolina. In July, over 50 students attended Roman Explorers Newport News, VA, a one-day workshop led by S. Stuart Davis and Katherine Williams. Finally, Ascanius entered new and exciting territory with Suzanne Henrich’s workshop session at the National Junior Classical League Convention in Fargo, ND. While local elementary students took part in Roman Explorers Fargo, high school students learned how to conduct similar workshops in their own hometowns.

Upcoming Student Programs for 2011:
We are pleased to announce four LatinSummer programs:

- **LatinSummer at UMass**
  July 11 - 22, 2011
  Amherst, Massachusetts

- **LatinSummer Williamsburg**
  July 25 - August 5, 2011
  Williamsburg, Virginia

- **LatinSummer Charleston**
  July 18 - 29, 2011
  Charleston, South Carolina

- **LatinSummer Newport News**
  July 11 - 15, 2011
  Newport News, Virginia

As in previous years, classes will be taught by talented high school and college Latin students from across the nation. Our tried and true curriculum will continue; however, 6th and 7th grade students at LatinSummer Williamsburg will participate in a brand new Latin immersion class unlike anything they have ever experienced. These students will learn about the classical world in the language of the ancient Romans! Details about all four programs can be found on our website.

Students in Minneapolis, Minnesota, will spend a day getting an exciting introduction to Latin and the Romans. Roman Explorers Twin Cities will take place during the ACL Institute on June 25. Local high school students will assist and will gain the knowledge they need to run similar programs at elementary schools in their own hometowns.

Connect with us on Facebook!
Visit Ascanius on Facebook to find out the latest Ascanius news, view recent photos, connect with friends, and learn how YOU can help Ascanius to achieve its goals, see page III.
CLASSICAL PROMISE SCHOLAR’S REPORT:

In November of 2009, over 200 elementary school students from the Lakes Region of central New Hampshire came together to watch a presentation on ancient comedy and to view a bilingual version of Plautus’s Curculio, performed by the upper level Latin students of Moultonborough Academy. The Latin students put together an elementary-school-friendly version of the script, built and painted the sets, crafted and sewed the costumes, marketed the event to local schools, and even helped to develop follow-up activities that were used in elementary school classrooms after the performance. This unique presentation of Curculio and ancient comedy was made possible in part thanks to a Classical Promise Scholarship!

LATIN WRITING CONTEST INAUGURATION:

This year, Ascanius initiated an annual Latin composition contest called SCRIBO, which is open to any student of Latin from kindergarten through college. The goal of the contest is to spur interest in using Latin for creative writing and to honor top work. This year’s winning entries have been published in a compilation volume which is now available for purchase for classroom use. To purchase SCRIBO: Young Latin Authors please visit our website.

TEACHER WORKSHOPS:

Teacher Workshops in 2010:

Ascanius has been busy during the past year, training teachers of all levels and subjects in hands-on, exciting approaches to teaching Latin. Workshops in 2010 included Ten Great Latin Activities from Ten Great Years, presented by Suzanne Henrich at the ACL Institute in June, and Latin for 2010: Fresh Ideas for Fresh Kids, presented by Matthew Webb in Williamsburg in April. Some handouts and other materials can be accessed for free at the Ascanius website. The workshops both received enthusiastic responses. One participant, Elise Anschel, looking back on her preparation for teaching elementary Latin, says, “The absolutely most useful thing that I did was attend the workshop given by Ascanius…If you can’t get there, you MUST buy the CD with all five volumes of their Activitates Libri series of lessons and activities…I use it almost every week, and even when I don’t use it, the lessons inspire me to invent my own similar ones.”

Teacher Programs for 2011:

- Ten Great Latin Activities from Ten Great Years — March 18-19, CANE Conference, Massachusetts
- Latin for 2011: Fresh Ideas for Fresh Kids — April 1, 2011, Beverly, Massachusetts
- Latin Literature for All Ages — April 29, 2011, Williamsburg, Virginia
- Let’s Learn Latin — For elem./middle non-Latin teachers — August 1-3, 2011, Williamsburg, Virginia

For more information about these programs, please visit the “For Teachers” section of our website.

ASCANIUS AND THE IRIS PROJECT BRING IOTA MAGAZINE TO THE UNITED STATES:

Recently, Ascanius has formed a partnership with a British organization, The Iris Project, which publishes a Classics magazine for elementary students. It introduces Classics and Latin in a fun, engaging, and informative way, and each issue is themed around a different Classical myth. Ascanius will distribute Iota Magazine in the United States beginning this spring. There will be three issues each year. To purchase an individual issue or to sign up for a subscription for the 2011-2012 school year, please visit the Ascanius website.

Themes for the May issue:
- God - Athena
- Monster - Cercopes
- Person - Pliny the Elder
- Object - a loom

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEWEST CLASSICAL PROMISE SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS!

St. John’s School 8th Grade Latin Class, Olney, Maryland
Teacher: Danielle Smith
The class plans to create a hands-on ancient civilization box for elementary teachers and students to explore.

Look for their report next year!

STUDENTS: We are currently accepting Classical Promise applications. Visit our website for details!
NEW EDITIONS OF PUBLICATIONS

Getting to Know Greek

Our newest series, written by Matthew D. Webb, is a fun and exciting way for young students to explore the language and world of the ancient Greeks. Fully illustrated stories, fun online activities, and audio recordings accompany each of the chapters. In addition to the student text, a student workbook and teacher’s guide are also available.

Activitates Liberi, Volume I: Mingle with Myth

The first of three tenth anniversary editions to be released, this volume offers lessons and activities in Classical art and mythology for the elementary classroom. More than twenty-five lessons, including many brand new activities, are included.

For more details about our publications, and to view sample pages or place an order, please visit our online store at www.ascaniusyci.org/store.

NEW ASCANIUS TEAM MEMBERS

With so many exciting projects going on, the Ascanius Board has made some recent appointments. Lena Barsky, a first-year Classics major at Brown University, is now serving as Director of Grants & Development. Caitlin Campbell, a four-year Classics & Education major at the University of Virginia, serves as Assistant Director of Student Programs. Lisa Yeager, a Latin teacher from Birmingham, Alabama, has been hired as an Assistant Director for LatinSummer Williamsburg. Welcome!

How can you support Ascanius’ work?

We appreciate the outpouring of support for our 10th anniversary. In order to continue to offer our programs and scholarships, and to help ensure that students from all backgrounds can take advantage of our programs, we need your continued support. Thus far, 2011 has been the lowest year for fundraising in our existence. Please help us to continue in our mission. Maximas gratias vobis agimus!


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PLEDGE FORM

You can also donate online at our website.

We are a 501(c)(3) public charity. All donations are tax-deductible. Receipts will be sent. Please check the level at which you wish to give.

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Donors will receive a magnet featuring student artwork from LatinSummer.

Please detach and mail to: Ascanius: The Youth Classics Institute
P.O. Box 188
Alton Bay, NH 03810

Name___________________________ My donation is in honor of _______________________
Address__________________________________________ Phone______________________
Email____________________________________________

Donaors will receive a magnet featuring student artwork from LatinSummer.
Inside:
* News and pictures from 2010 student programs
* Details on Four Latin Summer programs for 2011
* Classical Promise Scholar report and awards
* Information on recent and upcoming teacher workshops
* Learn how you can help Ascanius as it continues to grow!