

OAK HALL SCHOOL



Dear FJCL Sponsors,

We are excited to announce a new and unique certamen event. On Saturday September 25th Oak Hall and Maclay will host a “teaching certamen workshop” in Gainesville. This Certamen will run differently than anything in the past. Oak Hall and Maclay students will not be playing any certamen, but rather offering workshop style sessions on how to build a successful certamen club. The sessions will include discussions on how to study and prepare for certamen, what materials to use for each category, strategies for answering questions, and how to write certamen questions. There will also be a session for the sponsors only which focuses on the benefits of certamen and how to motivate students and direct them in certamen. After the discussion sessions, we will break the teams out into rooms and play certamen. We will not have a final round or declare winners. Each team will be guaranteed five to six rounds of certamen on each level.

At the conclusion of the workshop, every student will receive a disk with handouts and study materials for all of the categories of certamen. This disk will also include instructions on how to study for each category as well as a list of the best sources to consult. Sponsors will receive disks with the same materials, but also a large volume of previous certamen questions, including some from Texas, Virginia, and other states.

Certamen has been an activity which has brought great joy to our students in their pursuit of the classics. Ultimately, it is a means to an end; it is a fun game which encourages a passionate enthusiasm for studying the classics. Our goal is to share that experience and to extend the friendly hand of JCL in an effort to benefit all of Florida’s students.

A specific schedule will be published and e-mailed to you very soon. **We will not be charging a registration fee for the workshop**, and so we hope that you will come. Whether your school has played certamen for years, or you are a first year teacher and do not even own a buzzer system, we cordially invite you to come to Gainesville. Please reserve September 25th and ask your students about saving this date.

e cordibus,

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Gainesville, FL

Ken Andino
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