

GJCL Collaborative Service and Spirit Guide

One of the things I really want to emphasize more in GJCL is collaborative service outreach. While there are many amazing service projects that local chapters already do, many smaller or newer chapters have a harder time planning and executing service projects due to lack of funds and/or lack of members. Therefore, collaborative service projects (projects done by multiple JCL chapters or executed with different service organizations and/or language clubs) are a good way to promote service outreach within a chapter and foster the sense of unity throughout the community. This document includes a calendar with some ideas for collaborative service projects. Below the list of ideas are tips for preparing for Fall Forum and State Convention Spirit. As always, there is no wrong way to do service; just make sure you are having a good time helping out others in your community!

-Michelle Cho, GJCL 2nd Vice President

Collaborative Service Project Ideas: Here are just a few ideas to help chapters get started on doing collaborative service projects with nearby JCL chapters or with other service organizations. After executing a service project, make sure to submit any photos taken to the Photo of The Month to encourage other chapters to participate in service projects and write a submission to the Alae Mercurii and/or the GJCL Community Service Competition about your service project to showcase your chapter's creativity and enthusiasm in service outreach.

January

- Get together with the other language clubs or another service clubs and sell hot chocolate and/or coffee in the mornings and donate the proceeds (make sure to get proper permission from your administration for anything that involves selling in school)
- January 23 is National Reading Day: visit a local elementary school or a senior home to read stories
- Partner up with a local middle school or high school and set up a Latin tutoring program (A good example is Walton High School's tutoring program with Cristo Rey High School)

February

- Sell conversation hearts candy or chocolate to students and donate the proceeds
- Create no-sew blankets for [Project Linus](#) to donate to children in need
- Conduct a soap drive to donate soap and other hygiene items to a local homeless shelter
- Sell baked goods in the mornings or right after school and donate the proceeds to a local charity

March

- Create no-sew blankets to comfort anxious cats and dogs in shelters
- Decorate placemats for senior citizens for [Meals on Wheels](#) with elementary/middle school kids

- Collect funds through a Coin Wars competition with all the world language clubs and donate the proceeds to a charity (do a fun prize for the winning club as an incentive!)

April

- April 27 is National Tell-A-Story Day: go to your local elementary school and perform a mini-skit about the founding of Rome or act out mythological stories
- Host a giant tutoring session/review study party at the end of the year to prepare for AP exams and final exams
- Have an end-of-year party with the other world language clubs; bring food from the respective cultures, put on music, and have a little photobooth
- Paint small gardening pots with elementary or middle school kids to give to teachers to decorate their classrooms (Bonus: add in pens, dry-erase markers, candy, etc. in the little pots as an extra gift)
- Help beautify and clean up the school campus on Earth Day with other service clubs

May

- School supplies/workbooks drive (collect unused school supplies and gently used test prep books to donate)
- Collaborate with other service clubs and help teachers clean out their classrooms at the end of the school year
- Help your school library or local library organize books and materials

June-July

- Set up summer tutoring programs to study for the exams or certamen at National Convention
- Collaborate with nearby JCL chapters or other service clubs and hold a car wash and then donate the proceeds
- Conduct a towel drive to collect old bath towels to donate to the [Humane Society](#)

August

- Work with other service clubs and help teachers set up and decorate their classrooms for the new school year
- Make little bundles of dry erase markers to give to teachers

September

- Create mini first-aid kits to donate to relief programs
- Decorate your Latin teacher's classroom with derivative trees (write the Latin word on the roots and write English derivatives on paper "leaves" and put them on top of the tree)

October

- "Socktober" - Collect and donate socks to a local homeless shelter
- Prepare for Fall Forum! (see below for more details)
 - Spend one afternoon creating a banner to represent your school at Fall Forum
 - Design and order t-shirts for Fall Forum

November

- Get together at your local library to write letters to the soldiers serving away from home during the holiday season to thank them for their service
- Canned food drive (Bonus: make it a competition between class periods or with the other language or service clubs at your school and give a prize to the winning team)

December

- Create fleece hats or fleece scarves and donate them to a homeless shelter
- Saturnalia Movie Night - Host a movie night with snacks and drinks (*Elf* is a fun choice) and collect a small entrance fee of \$1-5 to donate to charity
- Bundle together a candy cane and hot chocolate packet and give them to teachers for appreciation of their efforts

Spirit Contest Information and Tips:

Fall Forum Spirit:

- *Banner*
 - Make a banner based off the NJCL theme
 - Banners must be made on paper and should be 3 ft. in width and 5 ft. in length
 - Make sure to have your school's full name on the banner
 - Add drawings and color to make your banner stand out
- *Shirts* - Show your school spirit!
 - Customink.com is fun and easy to work with, and there are many other local printing companies that can print your t-shirts
 - If you can't order your shirts in time for Fall Forum, just have members wear your chapter's JCL shirt from the previous year

State Convention Spirit:

- *Spirit Themes:*
 - School Spirit
 - Wear your school JCL t-shirt or wear your school's colors to show your school pride!
 - You could also use your school mascot to represent your school
 - Purple and Gold
 - Bring out all your purple and gold attire for this day!
 - Pump up your spirit with some purple and gold Mardi Gras beads, leis, pom-poms, and more! Get creative!
- *Cheers*
 - Come up with some creative cheers to show your JCL spirit at the General Assemblies
 - Start out by just chanting your school name and then get creative from there!
 - Hint: If your school has cheers you use at pep rallies and football games, feel free to use those!

- Make sure all cheers are appropriate and do not offend anyone :)
- *Standard*
 - Build a Roman standard for your chapter to carry at General Assemblies and at the Roman Procession
 - Make sure to have your school name on your standard
 - Decorate it with anything that represents your chapter (school colors, mascot, etc.)
- *Togas/Stolas*
 - Every year, the GJCL State Convention has a Roman Procession! Make sure to bring a spare bed sheet (and safety pins for stolas)
 - Bring any other traditional Roman accessories (laurel crown, jewelry, etc.) to add a bit of flare to your outfit
- *Roll Call*
 - Roll Call is a chance for each chapter to introduce themselves in a fun and creative way to the GJCL delegation at the General Assemblies
 - Tips:
 - There is a 45-second limit for each Roll Call, so keep it short and sweet!
 - Roll calls can be anything from skits to cheers/chants to song parodies
 - Try to incorporate some classical themes into your roll call!
 - Make sure your Roll Call is appropriate and does not insult any other chapter
 - Make it creative and unique; think outside the box!