Albert O. Greef Translation Award 2024

The Classics Department is pleased to announce this year's competition for the Albert O. Greef Translation Award for the best translations of passages from Greek and Latin literature. The competition is open to any student currently enrolled in a Greek or Latin course at the University of Kansas. This award includes a cash prize.

Submissions will be handled through the Classics Competitions Canvas site. If you wish to participate, please contact Paul Touyz (touyz@ku.edu) by **Friday, April 5** to be added to the site. **Deadline for submission is Monday, April 8.**

The competition is judged anonymously, so please be sure to remove all identifying markers from your entry.

Students may compete in <u>either</u> or <u>both</u> Greek and Latin, and may consult dictionaries, commentaries, and even other translations. Submissions will be judged for <u>originality</u>, <u>literary quality</u>, and <u>overall effectiveness</u>. The aim of the competition is to look beyond classroom translations and to encourage instead a deeper, more creative level of engagement with the selected passages. For a recent essay on the difference between classroom and literary translations, have a look here: https://eidolon.pub/the-twists-and-turns-of-translation-33f1272dffa8

The Greek and Latin passages for 2024 are attached below. The Greek is taken from Euripides' *Alcestis*, while the Latin is from Vergil's *Georgics*.

Heracles resolves to rescue Alcestis from the clutches of Death.

ὦ πολλὰ τλᾶσα καρδία καὶ χεὶρ ἐμή,

νῦν δεῖξον οἷον παῖδά σ᾽ ἡ Τιρυνθία

ἐγείνατ᾽ Ἠλεκτρύωνος Ἀλκμήνη Διί.

δεῖ γάρ με σῶσαι τὴν θανοῦσαν ἀρτίως   840

γυναῖκα κἀς τόνδ᾽ αὖθις ἱδρῦσαι δόμον

Ἄλκηστιν Ἀδμήτῳ θ᾽ ὑπουργῆσαι χάριν.

ἐλθὼν δ᾽ ἄνακτα τὸν μελάμπεπλον νεκρῶν

Θάνατον φυλάξω, καί νιν εὑρήσειν δοκῶ

πίνοντα τύμβου πλησίον προσφαγμάτων.   845

κἄνπερ λοχαίας αὐτὸν ἐξ ἕδρας συθεὶς

μάρψω, κύκλον δὲ περιβάλω χεροῖν ἐμαῖν,

οὐκ ἔστιν ὅστις αὐτὸν ἐξαιρήσεται

μογοῦντα πλευρά, πρὶν γυναῖκ᾽ ἐμοὶ μεθῇ.

ἢν δ᾽ οὖν ἁμάρτω τῆσδ᾽ ἄγρας καὶ μὴ μόλῃ 850

πρὸς αἱματηρὸν πέλανον, εἶμι τῶν κάτω

Κόρης Ἄνακτός τ᾽ εἰς ἀνηλίους δόμους,

αἰτήσομαί τε καὶ πέποιθ᾽ ἄξειν ἄνω

Ἄλκηστιν, ὥστε χερσὶν ἐνθεῖναι ξένου,

ὅς μ᾽ ἐς δόμους ἐδέξατ᾽ οὐδ᾽ ἀπήλασεν,   855

καίπερ βαρείᾳ συμφορᾷ πεπληγμένος,

ἔκρυπτε δ᾽ ὢν γενναῖος, αἰδεσθεὶς ἐμέ.

τίς τοῦδε μᾶλλον Θεσσαλῶν φιλόξενος,

τίς Ἑλλάδ᾽ οἰκῶν; τοιγὰρ οὐκ ἐρεῖ κακὸν

εὐεργετῆσαι φῶτα γενναῖος γεγώς.   860

Latin Seen Passage
Vergil *Georgics* 4 494-522

Orpheus fails to bring Eurydice back from the underworld.

Illa, "Quis et me," inquit, "miseram et te perdidit, Orpheu,

quis tantus furor? En iterum crudelia retro   495

Fata vocant, conditque natantia lumina somnus.

Iamque vale: feror ingenti circumdata nocte

invalidasque tibi tendens, heu non tua, palmas!"

dixit et ex oculis subito, ceu fumus in auras

commixtus tenues, fugit diversa, neque illum,   500

prensantem nequiquam umbras et multa volentem

dicere, praeterea vidit, nec portitor Orci

amplius obiectam passus transire paludem.

Quid faceret? Quo se rapta bis coniuge ferret?

Quo fletu Manis, quae numina voce moveret?   505

Illa quidem Stygia nabat iam frigida cumba.

Septem illum totos perhibent ex ordine menses

rupe sub aeria deserti ad Strymonis undam

flesse sibi et gelidis haec evolvisse sub antris

mulcentem tigres et agentem carmine quercus;   510

qualis populea maerens philomela sub umbra

amissos queritur fetus, quos durus arator

observans nido implumes detraxit; at illa

flet noctem ramoque sedens miserabile carmen

integrat et maestis late loca questibus implet.   515

Nulla Venus, non ulli animum flexere hymenaei.