



The **ACES** Club

Our Monthly Newsletter: April 2023

President's Report

Dear friends and subscribers,

Welcome to the April edition of the ACES newsletter. First of all, I would like to sincerely thank every person who registered for our second online conference that was kindly organised by the CiRCE Institute. In particular, I would like to thank our Australian speakers (Diff Crowther, Michael Mendieta, Benjamin Crocker) as well as the American speakers who shared their wealth of knowledge and wisdom with all participants. Please remember that recordings will be made available soon to all registrants. These forums do not regularly happen in Australia so we at ACES will continue to organise online conferences and hopefully face-to-face events in each capital city. For those who were unable to participate during the live sessions, I encourage you to watch the recordings of the conference.



Secondly, I would like to inform you that due to the success of the April 1 seminar that was recently held with Adrienne Freas and Kiernan Fiore from *Beautiful Teaching*, I am very pleased to announce that another two seminars will be occurring. The first seminar is titled "Creating and Leading Seminars For Any Subject". During this seminar, Adrienne will guide us in learning how to lead seminars, creating thoughtful discussions and establishing an atmosphere for civil discourse. To register and pay for this course, please follow this [link](#).

The second session will occur on June 17 and will be led by Kiernan Fiore from *Beautiful Teaching*. It is imperative that participants attend both sessions to receive all the full benefits from this professional development. These courses are especially tailored to teachers, irrespective of the subject you teach.

ClassicalU has an excellent book finder where one can find many books that have been written about classical education. There is also a pathway finder to navigate the best form of professional development for each person based on his or her unique needs.

Speaking of books, we at ACES would like to introduce a series of online book clubs. Under the guidance of a facilitator, we will read books that are specifically related to classical education. These books can be purchased from the [Logos Australis](#) website at reasonable prices. If any person is interested in attending these monthly book clubs please register your interests by sending an email to ACES. Dates and times will be made available in the next newsletter. The book clubs will occur on Saturday mornings for about two hours each session.

One desire that was clearly expressed during the April conference was the need to create classical schools in Australia. It is possible to create a classical school and still teach to the Australian standards. It is not impossible. If there is anyone wishing to start a classical school and requires assistance or guidance as to how to best do this, then please send an email to ACES. There are people on our committee who are consultants and can assist with the whole process.

For further involvement in our association, the Australian classical education movement, or just to meet like-minded people, please get in touch: contact@classicaleducation.org.au.

Yours sincerely,

Kon Bouzikos
President of ACES



CLASSICAL PEDAGOGY

IMMERSION COURSES IN CONJUNCTION WITH
BEAUTIFUL TEACHING

CREATING AND LEADING SEMINARS FOR ANY SUBJECT PART 1

Learn how to lead seminars, create thoughtful discussions, establish an atmosphere for civil discourse, and forge a spirit of inquiry in your classroom!

SATURDAY, 27 MAY 2023, 8AM – 10 AM (AEST)

\$50 AUD per person*

This course is offered only to Australian-based participants with a 30-person attendance cap, so register early. Proceeds for this conference go directly to help ACES.



Young Man Being Introduced to the Seven Liberal Arts, by Sandro Botticelli

SEMINARS FOR ANY SUBJECT PART 2: Save the date, June 17 (Registration coming soon)



ABOUT THE INSTRUCTORS:

Kiernan Fiore and Adrienne Freas have extensive experience working with teachers new to classical education. They have lead dozens of seminars for teachers who want to experience the beauty of a classical education. The lessons that they teach will be given to all attendees to use in their own classrooms.



*Payments can be made through ACES: BSB 063-132 Account No. 1163 3884. Please include your name as the reference with bank transfers.

For more details, please email ACES: contact@classicaleducation.org.au.



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www.classicaleducationpodcast.com/

Articles of Interest

LIBERAL ARTS TRAINED TEACHERS WANTED!

Covenant Christian School in Canberra is seeking Christian educators with a background in classical learning. Any teacher or pre-service teaching wishing to be part of this excellent vocation, apply to the school via its [website](#).



A TALE OF TWO ENGLISH CLASSROOMS

In this [article](#), Andy McLaurin shares insights into what it means to teach VCE Literature. He critiques the "thinly veiled tribalism" and ideologies like critical race theory that undergird English subjects in contemporary Australian schools.

Andy contrasts secular Literature studies with classical education. He writes:

"What is most fundamental to this [classical] approach is an appreciation for learning as a virtue unto itself. Students are facilitated to approach their studies with a sense of 'miranda' or marvel in the Aristotelian tradition, free of ideological possession... Qualitatively, teaching English in this manner lends itself to a narrative understanding of the world. Students are ecstatic once the gravity of that worldview substantiates itself through their through their encounter with meaningful literature."

HOW THE NATIONAL CURRICULUM IS FAILING AUSTRALIAN CHILDREN

The Australian education system is in crisis, and at the heart of this crisis lies the National Curriculum. The curriculum dictates what every child in Australia should know. Sadly, it is becoming increasingly apparent that it is failing to fulfil its purpose, which is to educate Australian children. Unfortunately, Version 9 of the National Curriculum, which will be implemented in all Australian schools in 2023, does not represent an improvement on previous iterations of the curriculum. As this [report](#) reveals, where the National Curriculum is failing in one area, it is succeeding in another. Instead of teaching children how to read and write, it is indoctrinating them with identity politics, radical race theory, and radical green ideology.



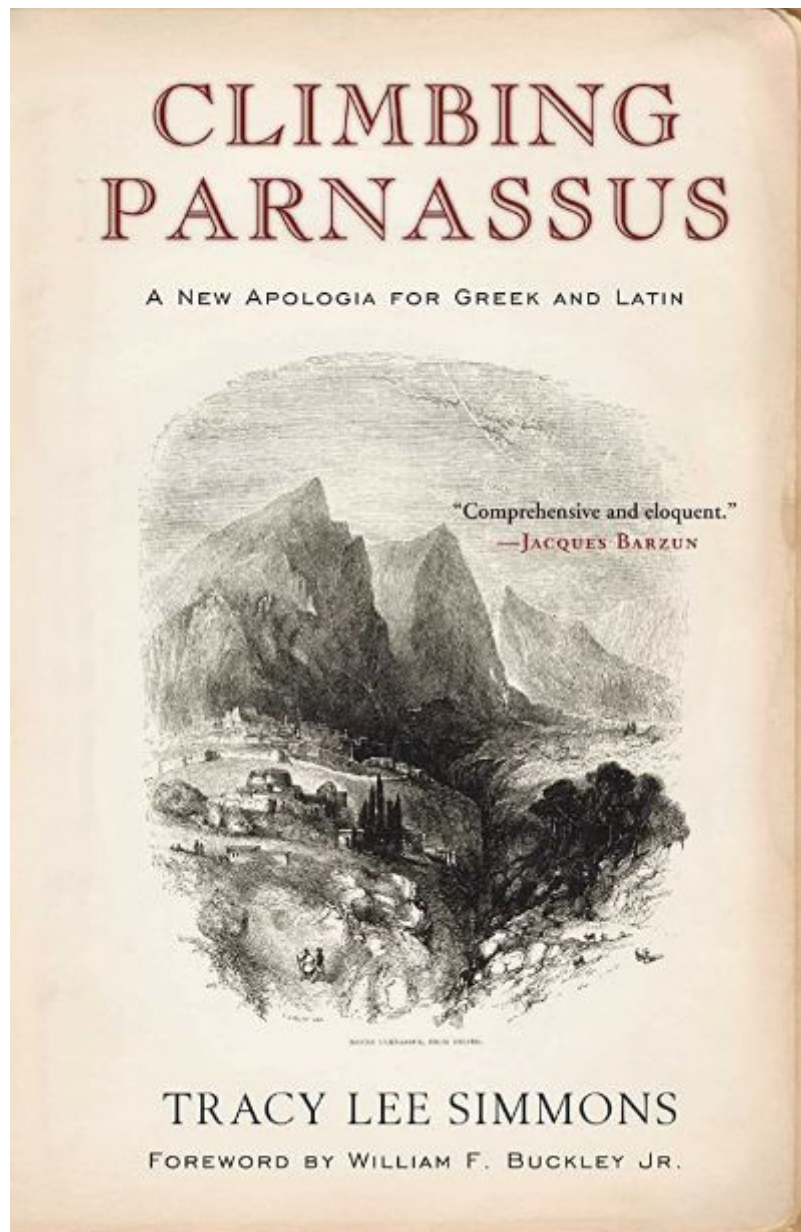
Andrew J. Zwerneman, founding president of *Cana Academy*, discusses the teaching of expository literature and provides his insight into this important area of classical and contemporary learning.

RECOMMENDED VIEWING

Poetry as Human Energy.

Dana Gioia, former California State Poet Laureate, speaks on the wonder and power of poetry. Watch the talk [here](#).

Books of Interest



In *Climbing Parnassus*, winner of the 2005 Paideia Prize, Tracy Lee Simmons presents a defense and vindication of the formative power of Greek and Latin. He also shows how these languages have played a crucial role in the development of authentic humanism, the foundation of the West's cultural order. Simmons's persuasive witness to the unique, now all-but-forgotten advantages of study in and of the classical languages constitutes a bracing reminder of the genuine aims of a truly liberal education.

The book can be purchased [here](#).



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