

Greek Games

The Greek Games is an annual contest in Athletics, Lyrics, Costumes, and Dance, held each Spring by the Sophomores and Freshmen. Greek Games are dedicated to a Greek God whose characteristics are portrayed in the myth and dancing. Those of 1926 were dedicated to the God of Nature — Pan.

Greek Games is an activity in which all may participate. Each class chooses a myth which when executed in dancing will distinguish the various attributes and ideals of the God and also tell some story from mythology in which he was involved. This allows for a great deal of original work not only in the organization of the myth but in its interpretation in dancing and costuming.

The attempt is made to keep the costumes as nearly like the old Greek costumes as possible — a tunic arrangement which allows freedom and grace of movement. The various colors of the costumes are another problem which when carefully considered add much to the beauty of the myth and its interpretation.

In this day all of our athletic sports are judged mainly by speed and rapid results but not so in the old Greek sports or in our Greek Games — for here form is the important thing. In the torch race the idea was not primarily to win the race by time or speed but to win it displaying the best form; that is why the heavy torch which retarded rather than increased the speed was used. The discus throwing, hurdling and chariot race such as used in our Greek Games are all judged for form. The chariot race in which four girls act as the horses is entirely a matter of form, grace, and beauty.

The contest in lyrics is a contest of original poems written by the members of the Sophomore and Freshman class dedicated to the God of Greek Games. The writer of the best poem receives a laurel wreath as do the victors of the other contests.

The music which aids in the interpretation of the myth and dancing is another important phase of Greek Games. It requires a great deal of work to fit dance to music and music to myth, yet we — the Sophomores and Freshmen enjoy it and are looking forward to the fun of next year's Greek Games when we may again vie with one another after the fashion of our ancient Greek ancestors.

