

Greek Mythology #31: HEBE

by Joy Journeyay

Goddess of: Youth
 Home: MOUNT OLYMPUS
 Symbols: Cup, goblet,
 Parents: Zeus and Hera
 Consorts: Psyche
 Roman Counterpart: Juventas

Hebe was the daughter of Zeus and Hera, and the goddess of youth. Hebe was the cupbearer for the gods. Zeus in his eagle form was believed to have the power to impart eternal youth, and thus shared this focus on youth with his daughter. She is usually depicted serving nectar and ambrosia to her father, Zeus, in his form as this powerful eagle.

As part of her helpful nature, she drew baths for her brother Ares and helped her mother Hera into her chariot pulled by horsed.

Hebe was married to Heracles (Hercules) and succeeded in her duties as cupbearer by Ganymede upon his abduction by Zeus. In some myths she is known as Ganymeda, indicating this link between the two.



**Cameo carved shell.
 Large. Courtesy of Lucy
 Carriero Traverse.**



**1860s Italian cameo
 carved shell. Large.**



**18th century cut ivory on silk in a gilt copper
 rim. Large. Courtesy of R.C.Larner**



**18th century ink on silk in a metal rim. Large.
 Courtesy of Barbara Barrans.**