



Hebe (he-bee) was the goddess of youth and immortality. She was the youngest daughter of Zeus and Hera and was married to Hercules. They bore two children. Her name means youth or prime of life. She was the cup bearer who served nectar to the Olympian Gods and gave them everlasting youth. She was the cup bearer until Ganymede took her place. She was known for being a clumsy goddess

There is a legend that Hebe at one time slipped in an awkward manner in the company of the gods and spilled her nectar, on which account she was dismissed from her service, and a beautiful youth, Ganymede, was carried from earth by the eagle of Zeus, to serve as cup-bearer in Olympus. It seems, however, from a later passage in the *Iliad*, that she was restored to her office. Ganymede seems to have been merely a male Hebe, and Hebe herself is sometimes called "Ganymeda."

Hebe, while being a very important goddess, was not mentioned in myths very much. She has been more famed throughout works of art.