



NEA Big Read / 2024 Santa Fe Reads Special Event Preparations

Ammon Treasure
MLIS Capstone Project

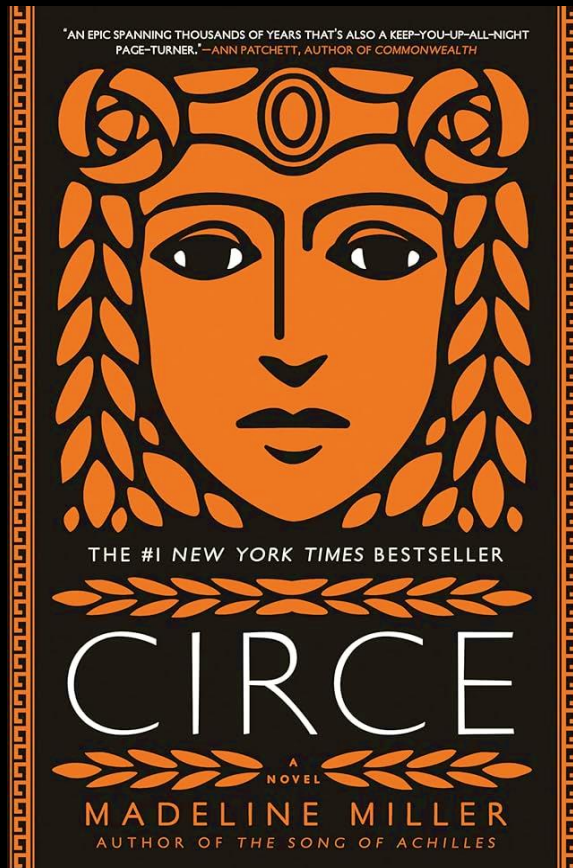
Solo Project

Ammon Treasure

Worked for a public library system in Southern Utah for over ten years and at a small academic library in Santa Fe, New Mexico for two years.



Quick Summary

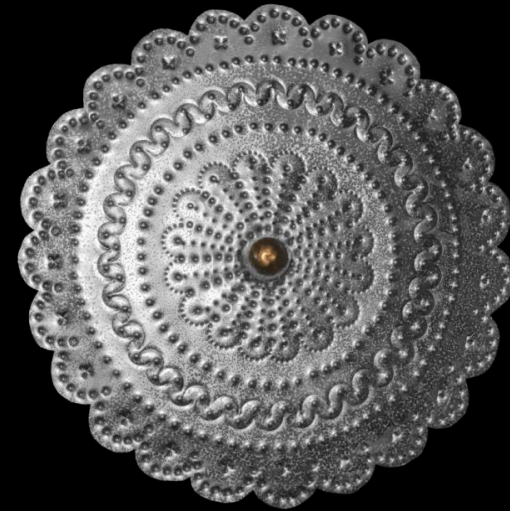


With a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Santa Fe Public Library's Big Read event focused on "Circe" by Madeline Miller. This meant that affiliated programs and displays during this time would follow a Greek Mythology theme. My capstone project was focused on assisting with this collaborative, community-building event in two main ways: to develop and hold a writing contest, and to create an engaging display at the Southside Branch location.

Project Sponsors

Jessica Gulliford
Programs Manager

Ann McGinley
Southside Branch Manager



**SANTA FE
PUBLIC LIBRARY**

Capstone Objectives

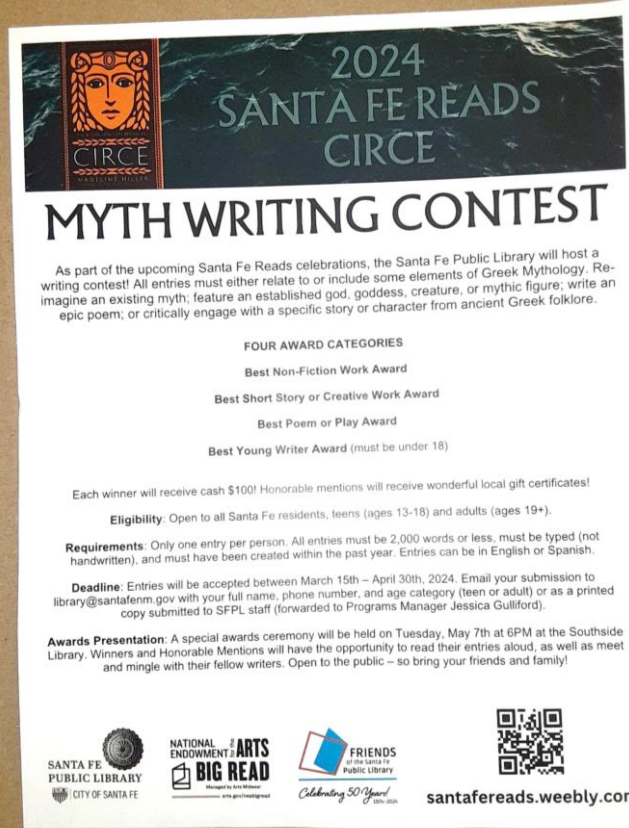


- To enrich patrons' experience of the event
- To showcase library resources and services
- To help build an engaged community
- To learn more about library programming

Both elements of my project were a huge success in terms of participation in the contest – the most they have ever had – and by making the event an overall more immersive experience.

Part 1: Myth Writing Contest

- Develop a prompt and contest rules
- Advertise
- Collect submissions
- Create a panel of judges
- Hold an awards presentation ceremony



2024 SANTA FE READS CIRCE MYTH WRITING CONTEST

As part of the upcoming Santa Fe Reads celebrations, the Santa Fe Public Library will host a writing contest! All entries must either relate to or include some elements of Greek Mythology. Reimagine an existing myth; feature an established god, goddess, creature, or mythic figure; write an epic poem; or critically engage with a specific story or character from ancient Greek folklore.

FOUR AWARD CATEGORIES

- Best Non-Fiction Work Award
- Best Short Story or Creative Work Award
- Best Poem or Play Award
- Best Young Writer Award (must be under 18)





Each winner will receive cash \$100! Honorable mentions will receive wonderful local gift certificates!

Eligibility: Open to all Santa Fe residents, teens (ages 13-18) and adults (ages 19+).

Requirements: Only one entry per person. All entries must be 2,000 words or less, must be typed (not handwritten), and must have been created within the past year. Entries can be in English or Spanish.

Deadline: Entries will be accepted between March 15th – April 30th, 2024. Email your submission to library@santafenm.gov with your full name, phone number, and age category (teen or adult) or as a printed copy submitted to SFPL staff (forwarded to Programs Manager Jessica Gulliford).

Awards Presentation: A special awards ceremony will be held on Tuesday, May 7th at 6PM at the Southside Library. Winners and Honorable Mentions will have the opportunity to read their entries aloud, as well as meet and mingle with their fellow writers. Open to the public – so bring your friends and family!

SANTA FE PUBLIC LIBRARY
CITY OF SANTA FE

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS
BIG READ
Celebrating 50 Years!

FRIENDS of the Santa Fe Public Library
Celebrating 50 Years!

santafereads.weebly.com

Part 1: Myth Writing Contest



All entries must either relate to or include some elements of Greek Mythology. Reimagine an existing myth; feature an established god, goddess, creature, or mythic figure; write an epic poem; or critically engage with a specific story or character from ancient Greek folklore.

Length limit was 2,000 words.

FOUR AWARD CATEGORIES:

- Best Non-Fiction Work Award
- Best Short Story/Creative Work Award
- Best Poem/Play Award
- Best Young Writer Award (must be under 18)

Part 1: Myth Writing Contest

In total we received 56 submissions!

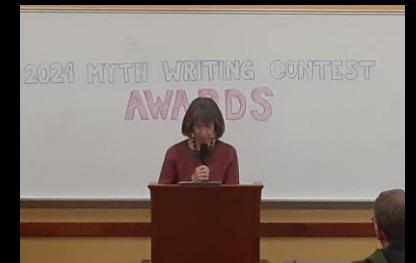
I was one of eight volunteer judges to give a score (one to five stars) and add notes for each entry.

Thanks to the Friends of the Santa Fe Public Library for donating the prizes.

FILE NAME	WORK TITLE	AUTHOR	AUTHOR UNDER 18	RATING	NOTES	RATING	NOTES	RATING
NON-FICTION ENTRIES								
Davians contest	My Life	Davian Sebastian Ramirez Loy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	☆☆☆☆	disqualified	☆☆☆☆	Doesn't fit parameters.	☆☆☆☆
The Hero and Her Mother	The Hero and Her Mother	Shannon Chamberlain	<input type="checkbox"/>	★★★★	This is my pick for non fiction winner	★★★★	Nonfiction Winner pick	☆☆☆☆
MYTH AND MEMORY_ Ann Bir	Myth and Memory	Ann Birch	<input type="checkbox"/>	★★★★	Nice formal elements but a bit cold at the language felt tossed off/informal	★★★★	Interesting and moving, but dissipate	★★★★
Autobiography with Greeks_og	Autobiography with Greeks	J Gr Bird Thompson	<input type="checkbox"/>	★★☆☆	But choice of first	☆☆☆☆		☆☆☆☆
SHORT STORY/CREATIVE ENTRIES								
Adult Verena Mahlow	Nymphs for the World	Verena Mahlow	<input type="checkbox"/>	★★☆☆	a bit unhinged, not sure about the me	☆☆☆☆	Interesting idea, but disjointed and ur	☆☆☆☆
Burchyski Eyrredice Among the	Eyrredice Among the Ashes	Aleta Burchyski	<input type="checkbox"/>	★★★★	evocative language, not a story	☆☆☆☆	Reads like an introduction to somethi	★★★★
INDIANA BONES_MYTH WRIT	The Journals of Storyteller Indie	Mike McCartney	<input type="checkbox"/>	★★☆☆	Parody	☆☆☆☆	Lacks unity.	☆☆☆☆
O Medusa_Hugo Pinkerton_TEI	O Medusa	Hugo Pinkerton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	☆☆☆☆	mere retelling prose poem perhaps	☆☆☆☆		☆☆☆☆
Peces	Peces	Shannon Kilgore	<input type="checkbox"/>	★★★★	a bit disjointed but I liked how weird I	★★★★	The fish scene is utterly charming	☆☆☆☆
PO FOR POTHOS - Haymes	Po for Pothos	Casey Haymes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	★★★★		★★★★	Interesting premise, but missing som	☆☆☆☆
POOR HERMES	Poor Hermes	Bill Stern	<input type="checkbox"/>	★★★★	a bit goofy	☆☆☆☆	An exhausted god's lament, but not n	☆☆☆☆
Soaring with Molpe_Geary Rad	Soaring with Molpe	Geary Radcliffe	<input type="checkbox"/>	★★★★		★★★★	Could use more development	☆☆☆☆
The Absense of Tragedy	The Absense of Tragedy	Kacy Crews	<input type="checkbox"/>	★★★★	Both style and story worked for me.	★★★★	Fiction Winner pick. Beautiful story th	★★★★
The Goddess Story EPT	The Goddess	Emily P Thompson	<input type="checkbox"/>	☆☆☆☆	rdy. Narration lack	☆☆☆☆		☆☆☆☆
The Man Who Would Be CEO by	The Man Who Would Be CEO	Jessica Feather	<input type="checkbox"/>	★★★★		★★★★	Plot-driven but little impact	☆☆☆☆
The Plastic Prometheus	The Plastic Prometheus	(?)	<input type="checkbox"/>	★★★★	felt a bit preachy, not sure about the c	☆☆☆☆	Anti-pollution screed, not much story	☆☆☆☆
The Tragic Love of Apollo and H	The Tragic Love of Apollo and H	Koal Teague Gustina	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	★★★★	more like a summary than story	☆☆☆☆	So... this happened	☆☆☆☆
Athena Interrupted_SFmythcor	Athena, Interrupted	Allison K. Athens	<input type="checkbox"/>	★★★★	more monologue than short story	★★★★	Sparkles with wit, but needs more ac	★★★★

Part 1: Myth Writing Contest

Awards Presentation:



Winners and Honorable Mentions in each category were invited to read their entries aloud – meeting was open to the public. Lots of friends and family were in attendance.

Part 2: Greek Column Display



In order to accommodate an inflatable planetarium, a section of windows at the Southside location needed to be blacked-out.

They saw this as an opportunity to make a themed display to celebrate the Big Read event.

21 feet wide by 10 feet tall.

- Coming up with a design
- Submitting a materials list with a limited budget
- Constructing the elements
- Final installation in time for the kickoff

Part 2: Greek Column Display

Approved concept art:



Materials list – not to exceed \$300:

FULL MATERIALS LIST:

LOCALLY ACQUIRED:

[x4] [Quikrete 12in x 48in Building Forms](#) tubes from **Home Depot** (to be cut in half) \$20.48 each or **\$81.92** total.
[x4] [27 in. L x 15 in. W x 16 in. D Large Moving Box with Handles](#) from **Home Depot** at \$2.48 each or **\$9.92** total.
(Might be able to get large cardboard boxes or cardboard sheets for **free** elsewhere.)

FROM AMAZON:

[Clear Packing Tape - 6 Rolls](#) at **\$17.99** (no dispenser included)

AND/OR

[x3] [Loctite Fun-Tak Mounting Putty](#) at \$2.99 each or **\$8.97** total (very rough estimate, may **melt** if it gets too hot - test first?)

[Poster paint \(white\) - 32oz](#) at **\$14.01** (we might actually need 2 of these)

[Poster paint \(black\) - 32oz](#) at **\$15.49**

[Yellow Construction Paper](#) at **\$5.49**

[Yellow Acrylic Yarn](#) at **\$5.99**

[24 Pcs Foam Paint Brushes](#) at **\$6.99**

[2 Strands Artificial Vines Ivy Garland 79"](#) at **\$13.89**

[Kraft Paper Roll 36" x 98ft \(black\)](#) at **\$35.99** (will likely have some extra left over of both colors)

[Kraft Paper Roll 36" x 100ft \(white\)](#) at **\$37.95** (to wrap the columns and the windows under the shelf - after a layer of black - as a base for the faux marble paint job)

ADDITIONAL TOOLS (may or may not need to buy):

[Hotglue](#) gun and glue sticks, Scissors, Box cutter, [Yard stick](#)/ruler, Plastic containers for paint mixing

GRAND TOTAL ESTIMATE: \$254.60

Part 2: Greek Column Display

Time management for the construction of 3D-elements:

3/20	Column Construction	12PM - 3PM	[3 hours]
3/27	Column Construction	12PM - 3PM	[3 hours]
3/28	Column Construction	10AM - 11:30AM	[1.5 hours]
4/3	Column Construction	10AM - 2PM	
	Support Beam Construction	4PM - 7PM (home)	[7 hours]
4/4	Wrap Columns & Beams	10AM - 2:30PM	[4.5 hours]
4/10	Move Library Furniture	9AM - 10AM	[1 hour]
4/11	Finish Wrapping Columns	12:30 - 3PM	[2.5 hours]
4/12	Wrap & Paint Glass Blocks	10:30 - 1:30PM	
		3PM - 6PM	[6 hours]
4/17	Paint Columns	10AM - 2PM	[4 hours]
4/18	Cut Out Stars	10AM - 12PM (home)	[2 hours]
4/19	Wrap Windows & Final Assembly	ALL DAY	[?]



Part 2: Greek Column Display

Final result – approximately
40 hours of work.



Project Evaluation



What did I learn?

- Collaborating with other people takes patience.

What did I like best?

- Seeing my vision for the contest and the display come to fruition.

What did I find most challenging?

- Suppressing my drive to make things 'perfect'.

Where do things go from here?

- Excited to hear they plan to repurpose the columns in their Summer Reading Program decorations. Lots of compliments on the judging spreadsheet for its ease of use – they might reuse it for future contests.