Ancient Thunder Study Guide

In this study guide you will find all kinds of information to help you learn more about the myths that inspired BTE’s original play *Ancient Thunder*, and about Ancient Greece and its influence on culture down to the present time.

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What is Mythology?
Myths are stories that people tell to explain and understand how things came to be and how the world works. The word myth comes from a Greek word that means story. Mythology is the study of myths.

The World of Myths
Myths have been and are a part of almost every human community and culture on Earth. Here are a few.

Norse Mythology
Norse myths belong to the people, known as Vikings, who lived in region now known as Scandinavia. One Norse tale explains how the world came to be when fire and ice came together to create Ymir, a god-like giant who gave birth to many other giants, whose decedents gave birth to Odin, one of the most important Norse gods.

Meet some Norse Gods

Odin
Odin, sometimes also spelled as Woden, is the god of wisdom, poetry, death, and magic. He is married to the goddess Frigg, and is father to Thor, Baldr, Hodr. He appears as an old man with one eye and a long, gray beard. He often carries a spear named Gungnir and wears a big floppy-brimmed hat and a cloak. The English word Wednesday come from and Old English word meaning “day of Woden.”
Thor

Thor, who carries a hammer named Mjolnir, is a god associated with lighting, thunder, storms, sacred forests, and strength. He has a red beard and red hair, and rides in cart pulled by two goats named Tanngrisnir and Tanngnjost. Thor uses his hammer in battles to protect humanity and also to bestow his blessing.

Frig

Frig, the wife of Oden, is the goddess of the sky, and also motherhood, love, marriage, and domestic arts related to housekeeping. She is pictured with a spinning wheel, which she uses to spin clouds, and keys which symbolize the home and housekeeping. The English word Friday comes from Frig’s name.

Bragi

Bragi is the bard, or poet, of Valhalla, the great hall of Oden where warriors who die in battle go to live in the afterlife.
Greek Mythology

Ancient Greek myths are mainly stories about the relationships between gods and gods and mortal human beings. The ancient Greeks believed that many of the gods lived on Mount Olympus in fabulous palaces made of marble and gold. The gods and goddesses who lived on Mount Olympus were known as the Olympians. They were ruled by the temperamental Zeus, king of the gods. Zeus came to be king by waging a war on his father, Cronus. Cronus was a titan, a species of god the Greeks believed lived before the Olympians were born.

Meet some Greek Gods

Zeus

Zeus, son of the titan Cronus, was the Greek god of lighting and thunder and the ruler of all the other Greek gods. He was also considered the god of honor and justice and served as a role model for real Greek rulers.

Poseidon

Poseidon was the god of the sea and rivers. The Greeks believed that he created storms, floods, and earthquakes. He was famous for carrying a trident, a kind of three-pointed spear and had a reputation for disrupting the life of the Gods and humans.
Athena

Athena was the daughter of Zeus, but she had no mother. She was born out of Zeus’s head. She was the goddess of war, wisdom, and handicraft. The Greek city of Athens is named after her.

Hermes

Hermes was thought to take messages from the Greek gods on Mt. Olympus to human beings. He was also considered the god of trade, wealth, luck, sleep, thieves, and travel. He was the patron of shepherds and was said to have invented the lyre, harp-like musical instrument. Always looking to amuse himself, he was often getting into trouble with other Greek gods.

Hera

Hera, the wife of Zeus, was the queen of the other Greek gods. Considered by the Greeks to represent the ideal woman, she was the goddess of marriage and the family.
**Daedalus**

Daedalus was a god known for his skill in designing, inventing, and building things and was seen as a symbol for wisdom, knowledge and the power of wisdom and knowledge. In a famous story he made himself and his son, Icarus, wings so they could escape from a prison on the island of Crete.

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**Demeter**

Demeter, the Corn-Mother, was the god of agriculture and the harvest and presided over grains and the fertility of the Earth. She was the mother of Persephone.

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**Aphrodite**

Aphrodite was the god of love and beauty, and pleasure. Some stories suggest that she was the daughter of Zeus and Dione. She is associated with roses, doves, sparrows, and swans.
Stories in Egyptian mythology date back to 2,400 BCE. One of the most important is the story of the god Osiris who was thought by Egyptians to be one of the first Kings of Egypt. It tells the story of how Osiris, murdered by his brother Set, is brought back to life by Isis, the wife of Osiris. The resurrected Osiris and Isis have a son, Horus, who battles Set for rule of Egypt. After much conflict Horus defeats Set and becomes King of Egypt.

Meet some Egyptian Gods

**Isis**

Isis, also known as the Great Mother, was the god of magic, motherhood, healing and the moon. She was also thought to be the protector of women and children.

**Osiris**

Osiris. Osiris is the Egyptian god of life, fertility, agriculture, the dead and the afterlife. He was thought to be in control of important events in nature like the sprouting of plants and flooding of the Nile river essential to growing food in ancient Egypt. He was considered the father of Horus.

**Horus**

Horus is the god of kingship and the sky. His connection with the sky is suggested by the fact that he has the head of a falcon.

**Ra**

One of the most important gods in the ancient Egyptian religion, Ra is the Sun god. He was considered to be the creator of the universe and giver and source of life.
Japanese Mythology

Japanese myths are stories about the gods and goddesses, called kami, that happened before what they call the “human age.” An important Japanese myth tells the story of how the first Japanese emperor, Jimmu Tenno, is related to the sun goddess Amaterasu. Another important myth describes how the storm god Susanoo scared the sun goddess into hiding in a cave and how another goddess named Ame no Uzume did a dance to make Amaterasu come out again.

Mayan Mythology

The Mayan civilization existed in northern Central America at about the same time as the Ancient Greeks lived. The first Mayan cities developed between 750 and 500 BCE. Mayan myths often tell stories about how human beings must relate to the natural world. One story explains how twins called Hunaphu and Xbalanque were transformed into the sun and the moon.

The Mayan Maize god and Itzamna, a Mayan creator god.
Myths Close to Home: Super Heroes

Ancient Greek myths and the mythology of other ancient peoples are full of characters who are like human beings in many ways. The Olympian gods, for example, have husbands, wives, brothers, sisters. The annoy one another, get angry, are sometimes jealous and scheming, and like to have fun and play tricks on one another. The Ancient Greeks also imagined their mythic characters as better than human beings: stronger, faster, wiser, immortal. We can see in such characters a very human desire to be free of human limitations and weaknesses.

Human beings are still interested in stories featuring characters that are human and yet more than human. One of the best examples of this on-going fascination are popular stories that feature super heroes.

According to Stan Lee, the creator of Spider Man

A superhero is a person who does heroic deeds and has the ability to do them in a way that a normal person couldn’t. So in order to be a superhero, you need a power that is more exceptional than any power a normal human being could possess, and you need to use that power to accomplish good deeds.

Not surprisingly, there are a number of super heroes that are a lot like the gods of ancient mythologies.

Superman uses his strength in pursuit of justice and enforcing the law just as Zeus was said to. DC Comic’s The Flash, the fastest person alive, is much like Hermes the swift messenger of the Olympians. As she appears in DC Comics Wonder Woman Volume 2, Wonder Woman is directly related to a number of Greek goddesses. From Aphrodite she received beauty and a loving heart, from Athena, wisdom, and from Demeter, the power and strength of the Earth. The comic book character Thor is directly inspired by the Norse god named Thor. Like the Greek god Poseidon, Aquaman could speak to sea creatures and enlist them in his battles and schemes. Athena superman Iron Man. In the Marvel Comics storyline, Iron Man is the secret identity of Anthony Edward Stark a skilled engineer and scientist who creates a powerful suit of armor. He’s like the Greek god Daedalus who is a skilled architect and craftsman and symbol of knowledge, wisdom and power.
Where and When was Ancient Greece?

The people historians refer to as the Ancient Greeks lived in places located in roughly the same territory on the Mediterranean Sea that the Country of Greece occupies today.

Ancient Greek civilization began to develop at the end of Greek Dark Ages around 900 BCE, and lasted until 600 CE. Over this 1,500-year period there were many social, economic, political, and cultural changes. To make sense of these changes, historians have divided Ancient Greek History into three periods: Archaic Greece lasting from 800 to 480 BCE, Classical Greece lasting from around 499 to 323 BCE, Hellenistic Greece lasting from 323 to 149 BCE, and Roman Greece lasting from 149 BCE to 600 CE.

Greek City States

While the Ancient Greeks shared a common language and culture, they did not live in a single large nation-state. They lived instead in city-states, called a polis in Greek. A city-state is a city that serves as an independent center of social, economic, political and cultural life for its citizens. The history of Ancient Greece is the history of many city states rather than one country. Among
the most important city states were Corinth, Thebes, Sparta, and Athens. All were Greek, but each was Greek in its own way. Their fortunes rose and fell as they competed in trade, war, and diplomacy. On occasion, Greek city states formed alliances to confront challenges from non-Greek civilizations such as Persia.

The city states had different forms of government and ways of life. Sparta, for example, was an oligarchy ruled by two hereditary kings. Athens was a democracy in which citizens elected their leaders.

In Sparta, boys were taken from their parents to begin mandatory military education and training at the age of 7, were required to serve in until age 60, and lived most of their lives in the army. In Athens, boys were required to do military training, but only for two years, and only after receiving an education in a variety of subjects such as reading, writing, math, music and poetry. When their military service was over, they could choose the work they’d like to do.

In Athens, girls were kept at home and got little education outside domestic arts like weaving or clothes making. In Sparta, girls entered school at age 7 and were taught to read and write and to do gymnastics and other athletic activities.

**How Long Ago was Ancient Greece?**

Over the course of human history there have been a number of ideas about how to count the number of years that have passed between now and some year in the past.

One system of counting years was invented by a Christian monk named Dionysius Exiguus who lived between 470-544 CE. Because he was Christian, Dionysius decided to start counting years from the year in which Jesus of Nazareth was born. In Dionysius’s system, the year of Jesus’s birth was year one, what he called (in Latin), Anno Domini or “in the year of our Lord.” So, every year after the birth of Jesus would be a number followed by the words Anno Domini, or AD for short. Every year before the birth of Jesus would be a number followed by BC, meaning “before Christ.”

In other words, Dionysius’s system counts years on a number line that has no zero.

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**Counting Years into the Past**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ancient Greece</th>
<th>1 BCE (BC)</th>
<th>1 CE (AD)</th>
<th>Today</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>800 BCE - 338 BCE</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

years increase into the past  no year zero  years increase into the future
Counting years in this way, Ancient Greece was roughly 2,300 to 2,800 years ago.

It’s important to know that BCE which stands for “before the common era” is often used instead of BC and has the same meaning. C.E. which stands for “common era” is often used instead of AD and has the same meaning.

The Arts in Ancient Greece

The Ancient Greeks produced many forms of art including painting, sculpture, ceramics, jewelry, architecture, poetry, drama, and music.

Most of what the Greeks produced has not survived the last 3,000 years, but some objects and writings have been preserved and handed down over the centuries. What we know about the Ancient Greeks comes from these sources.
Head of a boy.

A gold earring.

The top of a Greek column on display at The Metropolitan Museum, New York, New York.

A bronze helmet that might have been worn by a Greek Hoplite soldier.

The Parthenon on the Acropolis in Athens, Greece. It was a temple to the Goddess Athena for whom the city of Athens is named. It is one of the most famous of Ancient Greek buildings.

Photos: Courtesy of The Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York, New York
Ancient Greek Literature

The Ancient Greeks developed their alphabet and began writing their language in about 1,000 BCE.

The most influential and important literary works in the Greek world were two epic poems, the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey*. They were authored by a poet named Homer who may or may not have been a real person and were based on stories passed down orally for many years before being written down.

The *Iliad* tells the story of the Trojan War and the Fall of Troy which the Greeks believed happened at the very beginning of their history. The *Odyssey* tells the story of the adventures of a character from the Iliad, a man named Odysseus, as he traveled around Greece after the Trojan War. The Greek gods described in Greek mythology appear as essential characters in both of the poems as they act to shape the fate of the human characters.

The *Iliad* and the *Odyssey* told stories that the Greeks thought defined their history, society, and culture. Any educated Greek would have known these stories and their characters and looked to them for guidance about how to act and understand the world and their gods. Greek artists often drew on the poems for inspiration.

The Greeks also wrote a kind of poetry called lyric poetry, so called because it was intended to be sung by individuals or choruses accompanied by music played on a lyre (see Greek Music). The performance of lyric poetry eventually in evolved into Greek drama performed in theaters (see Greek Theatre).

Greek literature also included works by historians such as Herododus, and philosophers such as Plato and Aristotle.

The Influence of Ancient Greek Art

The arts of Ancient Greece strongly influenced the development of world culture in Europe and elsewhere over the last 3,000 years.

After the Fall of the Roman Empire in around 500 CE, Ancient Greek art was largely forgotten and unknown in Europe. Almost a thousand years later, in around 1400 CE people in Italy began to rediscover and think about the arts and ideas of Ancient Rome and Ancient Greece. This time in European history is often referred to as The Renaissance, an Italian word meaning "rebirth".
To make a long complicated story short and simple, during the Renaissance people in Europe came to be fascinated by everything about the ancient world. Many came to think that the art, and ideas, and way of life of the ancient world was superior and more sophisticated than that of Europe in the Middle Ages and they began to make art and architecture inspired by Greece and Rome.

Over time Europeans came to believe that a "classical education" -- an education focused on learning all about Greece and Rome -- was a requirement for living a good life. If you were in school at any time between the Renaissance and around 1860 in Europe or the United States a large part of your studies would be focused on stories and ideas from Greece and Rome. If you wanted to go to college you would probably have had to learn to read Greek and/or Latin.

A view of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington D.C. Does it remind you of a Ancient Greek building?

Pablo Picasso painted this painting, titled Minotaur with Dead Mare in front of a Cave in 1936.
Ancient Greek Theatre

Human beings have performed stories for one another for as long as there have been humans, so no one people or culture can fairly claim to have invented theatre all on its own. However, the ancient Greeks did invent forms of theatrical performance that have informed and inspired people in Europe and elsewhere since at least the 6th Century BCE.

One example of that influence is that the English word theatre comes from two Greek words: theasthai, meaning "to behold", and theatron, referring to a place where people get together to watch a performance.

The Origins of Greek Theatre

Greek theatre had its beginnings in various religious festivals throughout the Greek world honoring the Greek gods described in Greek mythology. These festivals featured the performance of songs and dances by groups of men and boys called a chorus. Over time, these performances came to include three actors who portrayed individual characters in a story. By the 6th Century BCE, the Greeks were creating special places, theaters, where people could attend such performances.

The oldest known Greek Theatre is the Theatre of Dionysus in Athens. It was first built to host an Athenian festival called the City Dionysia in honor of Dionysus, the god of wine-making and wine, festivals, and theatre, among other things. It was used for hundreds of years and could seat up to 17,000 spectators.
What Were Greek Plays About?

The Greeks wrote and produced three kinds of plays: comedies, tragedies, and satyr stories. Of these, the comedies and tragedies were the most important and have had the most influence on later theatre.

The first Greek comedies, written in the 4th Century BCE, often made satirical fun of political leaders and other well-known people, as well as Greek organizations and institutions. As Greek theatre developed, comedic plays came to focus on the lives of more average people, their behavior and the awkward or silly situations they found themselves in.

Greek tragedies often told stories of people who came into conflict with rules decreed by the gods and suffered as a result. Some tragedies told important stories from Greek history and politics that were used to examine the causes and consequences of bad choices by leaders. Someone dies in almost every Greek tragedy and disaster is a common occurrence.

The influence of Greek comedy and tragedy are such that we still use those words to describe contemporary plays. When there is a disastrous event that results in a loss of life, we often call it tragic.

Unfortunately, the texts of only a few of the many hundreds of plays produced ancient Greece have survived.

What Was Going to a Play Like?

In Ancient Greece, plays were performed in open-air theaters during the day. At the start of the play a chorus of between 15 and 25 people came onto the stage, called the orchestra, to introduce the story, explaining who the characters in the story were and what had happened to them before the time the play was about. The appearance of the chorus often included music, dance, and song.

After the chorus's introduction, individual actors would appear and interact with one another and also often engaged in a dialogue with the chorus. Besides the chorus, no more than three actors were allowed on stage at any time. This meant that Greek actors often had to play more than one part. To suggest different characters actors wore masks and costumes that they changed over the course of the play.
Greek theatre masks had very exaggerated feature to convey the emotions of a character. Greek comedy masks were often cartoon-like.

The reason that Greek theatre masks were exaggerated is that the audience sat so far from the stage that it would be very hard for audience members to see the actors’ bare faces. Masks allowed actors to communicate emotions to the whole audience.

**Dramatic Competitions**

The Greeks cared a lot about discovering and celebrating who was the best in all human activities: in politics, sport, art, and war. Theatre was no exception.

The Greeks regularly held dramatic competitions lasting several days. The most important of these was the City Dionysus held at Athens every year in the Spring. A panel of judges selected by lot from the audience of Athenian citizens chose the winners. Prizes were awarded for the best producer, playwright, director and actor. The prize was a wreath of ivy, considered a sacred plant by the Greeks, that the winner wore on his head.

**Music in Ancient Greece**

Music was very important in ancient Greece. If you went to almost any religious ceremony, a wedding, or funeral, or to the theatre, you would have heard music performed.

We know that music was important to the ancient Greeks because it is mentioned frequently in literature from the time and because people performing music were frequently portrayed in Greek art, such as these painted vessels.
Most Greek men learned how to play an instrument and also how to sing and dance. Some mastery of music was considered the mark of a well-educated person. The Greeks made statues to celebrate famous musicians, and built roofed theatre-like concert halls called Odeons.

Ancient Greek Poetry and Music

The Ancient Greeks had a special form of poetry called lyric poetry, called that because it was intended to be sung to the accompaniment of an instrument by a single performer or by a group of singers called a chorus. Lyric poems were written about a wide variety of subjects. Some celebrated famous athletic victories or victory in war, some remembered the dead, many told love stories, and others played a part in religious ceremonies.

Ancient Greek Instruments

The Ancient Greeks made music in many ways, with three instruments being particularly favored: the kithra, a plucked stringed instrument; the lyre, a string instrument that looked something like the modern harp; and the aluos, double reed instrument that might remind you of a bagpipe.
What Did Ancient Greek Music Sound Like?

Because only small fragments of musical scores have survived to the present day, our understanding of what Ancient Greek music actually sounded like is incomplete. However, recently, scholars using a variety of research methods and sources have tried to reconstruct performances of ancient Greek music.

Visit the online version of the Ancient Thunder Study Guide to see some videos that show performances of Ancient Greek music. https://www.bte.org/ancient-thunder

Greek Myths
Bloomsburg Theatre Ensemble’s Ancient Thunder tells the stories of four Ancient Greek myths.

Demeter and Persephone
A story about Demeter and her daughter Persephone that explains why we have seasons.

https://greece.mrdonn.org/greekgods/demeter.html

Hermes, Apollo, and the Cattle of the Sun
A story about the birth of Hermes, son of Zeus and Maia, the invention of the lyre, and the theft of the god Apollo’s cattle.

https://presentations.mrdonn.org/Hermes_and_Apollo.html

Arachne and Athena
A young girl named Arachne comes to believe that she is the best weaver in the world. Such was her pride that challenges the goddess Athena, who invented weaving, to a contest of weaving skill. What happened next explains how spiders came to be.

https://www.greekmythology.com/Myths/Mortals/Arachne/arachne.html

King Midas and the Golden Touch
King Midas does a good deed for the god Dionysus, is offered a reward, and then makes a very foolish choice.

https://greece.mrdonn.org/greekgods/kingmidas.html
https://greece.mrdonn.org/greekgods/kingmidas2.html
Here are some other Greek myths to explore

**Baucis and Philemon**
Sometimes even the king of the Gods, Zeus, needs a break. Zeus wanders as a hobo through Greece looking for a little hospitality. After being turned away repeatedly, he is moved by the generosity of two old people who have nothing to give but their good hearts.

https://www.greekmythology.com/Myths/Mortals/Baucis/baucis.html

**Arion the Singer**
Arion is a famous singer from a small island who wants to see the greater world. On his way to a great singing competition, something terrible happens. But something magical happens, too.

https://www.britannica.com/biography/Arion-Greek-poet-and-musician

**Daedalus and Icarus**
Daedalus— the inventor of the Labyrinth— is put in a high prison with his son Icarus after the death of the Minotaur. He uses his skill and ingenuity to fashion a way to escape, but sometimes our powers make us reach too high.

https://greece.mrdonn.org/greekgods/icarus.html

**Theseus and the Minotaur**
Theseus is a young hero from Athens who volunteers to be one of the victims sacrificed to the bull- headed monster, the Minotaur, who lives in the great Labyrinth at Crete. But Theseus has a plan to free his city from this terrible curse.

https://greece.mrdonn.org/theseus.html
Activities

Play Like an Ancient Greek Kid
Children played a variety of games in Ancient Greece, many of which are familiar to kids today.

Miada

Miada is played by a group. One of the group is blind-folded. The others talk or make sounds as the blind-folded one tries to catch another based on what he or she hears. When someone is caught they are blind-folded and the game continues.

Ostrakinda

This is a chasing game for a good-sized group of kids. Divide the group into two sides equal in number. The two groups stand facing one another on either side of a line drawn between them on the ground. One side is "day" (white), and the other "night" (black). An object that’s white on one side and black on the other (the Greeks would use a seashell or plate) is thrown into the air. If the white face lands facing up the white side chases the black. If the black face lands facing up the black side chases the white. Anyone who is caught must carry the person who caught them on their back like a onos (donkey).

Astrágaloi (Knucklebones or Jacks)

Ancient Greeks kids played this game with the small ankle bones of sheep, but jacks can be used instead. To play, throw 5-7 jacks out the floor. Pick one of the jacks and throw it into the air and then try to pick up another jack and catch to one in the air before it hits the ground. On the second throw, try and pick up two jacks, on the third try to pick up three jacks, and so on until all the jacks are picked up or the thrown jack hits the ground.

Make Up Your Own Myth

Myths are stories that people create to explain how things came to be as they are. Think of a situation or circumstance you know about and make up your own imaginative story to explain it. If you can't think of your own topic, here are a few questions to get you started.

How were video games invented?
Where do teachers come from?
Why are stop-signs hexagons?
How did the elephant get its trunk?
How did roosters learn to crow?
Why is the sky blue?
Why are school buses yellow?
**Make a Theatre Mask**
Imagine a mask for a character in your own myth or story and make it. There are two videos at the online version of this study guide that will help you figure out how to make an exciting mask.

https://www.bte.org/theatreschool/study-guides/ancient-thunder/ancient-thunder-activities.html

**Put on a Play**
A fun play titled *The Greek Mythology Olympiaganza* by Don Zolidis shows two narrators attempting to tell all the stories of Greek mythology. A great activity for middle school and older students.

You can learn about the play here: https://www.playscripts.com/play/1738

**Other Activities**
At the back of this study guide you will find a superhero matching game, pictures to color, a crossword, and a word search.
Sources
Here are some additional resources on Ancient Greece and Ancient Greek myths that you might like to explore.

Books
These books about Ancient Greece may be available in your school or public library.

*Treasury of Greek Mythology: Classic Stories of Gods, Goddesses, Heroes and Monsters* by Donna Jo Napoli with illustrations by Christina Balit. Published by National Geographic Kids.

*D'Aulaire's Book of Greek Myths* by Ingri D'Aulaire. Published by Delacorte Press.

*Mythology: Timeless Tales of Gods and Heroes* by Edith Hamilton. Published by Black Bog and Leventhal

Meet the Cast of Ancient Thunder
Here are the actors who appear in Ancient Thunder.

Carly Carman graduated from Bloomsburg University in 2018. At the university, she was involved in many BU Players productions such as Machinal (Young Woman), The Arsonists (William Eisen-ring), Harvey (Veta Louise Simmons), The Rocky Horror Show (Ush-erette/Phantom) and many more. Post- graduation, she assistant stage managed and designed props for Elephant Room Production’s Salamander for the 2018 Philadelphia Fringe Festival, and starred as Kathy in The Player’s Club of Swarthmore’s production of COMPANY!. In her free time she enjoys reading, writing, and playing video games.

Michael Covel is an actor, musician, and theatre educator from the Philadelphia suburbs and is thrilled to be interning with BTE. Theatre credits include: Act II Playhouse, The Pennsylvania Shake-speare Festival, People’s Light Theatre, Heartwood Regional Theatre Company, The Arden Theatre Company, and the Walnut Street Theatre. Much love to his family and his fiancée Carly for their love and support. Adjunct Professor of Theatre (Eastern University). Training: BA in Theatre (DeSales University).

Violet Race is a 24 year old Pennsylvania based actor, who is ecstatic to continue her journey with the Bloomsburg Theatre Ensemble as one of this year’s acting interns. She began this journey at age ten, as Momo in A Very Old Man With Enormous Wings. You may have seen her in her youth in other roles such as Arachne, in Ancient Greek Idol, Lil Red in Lil Red’s Extreme Freestylin Fairy Tales, Grouper in The Landlover: A Pirate Musical, or Violet Lemon in A Very Special Christmas Special. In her time away from BTE, Violet has had some of her favorite roles such as Finonoula “Fingers” O’Gar-vey, a pickpocket at the Pennsylvania Renaissance Faire, Katie in Plain and Fancy, Lisa in Mama Mia!, and Joanie in Happy Days: A New Musical at the Round Barn Theater.
Bloomsburg Theatre Ensemble gratefully acknowledges the following organizations and businesses for support of its Theatre in the Classroom programming.

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**General Program Support**

The Woodcock Foundation  
The Schubert Foundation
Athena and Arachne
Persephone

Daughter of Demeter and Goddess of the Underworld
MINOTAUR

A Minotaur is a Greek mythical creature. It lives in the center of the Cretan Labryinth, a complex maze.
Across

3. Persephone is near the flower, _______, when she is taken.
7. ______ is Demeter's daughter.
8. It is the ______ season when Persephone is in the Underworld.
9. ______ is the ruler of the Underworld.
10. Persephone eats three pomegranate ______.
11. ______ is the ruler of the Olympian gods.

Down

1. Persephone is picking a ______ when Hades kidnaps her.
2. It is the _____ season when Demeter and Persephone are together.
4. Hades takes Persephone to his home in the ______.
5. Hades tricks Persephone into eating the seeds of a ______.
6. Demeter is a very protective and loving ______ to Persephone.
Greece Word Search

Acropolis
Athens
Basilica
bread
dove
feta
garlic
greek

island
lamb
octopus
olive
olympics
plaka
sheep
souvlaki
MATCH THE GOD or GODDESS to the SUPERHERO

GODS & GODDESSES

Athena
Thor
Hermes
Poseidon
Zeus
Dedalus

SUPERHEROES

Aquaman
Superman
The Flash
Wonder Woman
Thor
Iron Man