

# Concord Historical Society Presents:

Speakers Series with

Dore' Ripley



## THINKING OF WRITING A BOOK?

### Covering the Past: Using Public-Domain Visual Art for Book Design and Descriptive Inspiration

Public-domain images aren't just for covers—they're powerful storytelling tools.

This presentation hopes to show writers how to use **public-domain visual art both for book covers and interior images, and as rich descriptive inspiration** while writing fiction. Focusing on visual material from Elizabethan England and Greek mythology, the session explores how engravings, woodcuts, paintings, and ancient art can shape atmosphere, character, and setting—while also anchoring books in historically resonant imagery.

#### Attendees will learn:

- How to identify and verify truly public-domain visual art
- Where to find high-quality images suitable for covers, interiors, and reader magnets
- How to adapt historical images for strong genre signaling and market appeal
- Techniques for using images to spark sensory detail, mood, and scene construction
- Best practices for attribution and ethical reuse

Using real examples, this talk bridges **creative craft and practical publishing**, showing how centuries-old images can fuel vivid prose and professional book design—without copyright anxiety.

Ideal for novelists, historical and mythic writers, indie authors, and small publishers looking to write better, design smarter, and publish with confidence.

**MARCH 22, 2026 2:00 FREE** (donations graciously accepted)

1928 Clayton Read – parking behind the building on Marina Ct.

