THOMAS COLE NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 2013

The Thomas Cole National Historic Site issues an

OPEN CALL for ARTWORK

Artists may choose any view from the Hudson River School Art Trail

Artists are invited to participate in the second annual exhibition and sale entitled "Postcards from the Trail 2013" that will take place at the Thomas Cole National Historic Site on **September 8, 2013**.

In the 19th-century, painters including Thomas Cole, Frederic Church, Jasper Cropsey, and many others who were part of the art movement now known as the Hudson River School, created sublime landscape images throughout the Hudson Valley and beyond. In 2005, the Thomas Cole National Historic Site in partnership with Olana and numerous other organizations launched the Hudson River School Art Trail, a series of hiking and driving trails that lead visitors to the very sites that inspired some of the great landscape paintings of the 19th century. In June 2012 the Trail was greatly expanded and Trail maps, images, and in-depth cultural content were converted to a digital format, made available for free online and optimized for mobile devices at www.hudsonriverschool.org.

Today, artists continue to create work that is inspired and informed by their experience in the very same landscapes. To celebrate this as well as the great response to the inaugural exhibition in 2012, artists are invited to visit one or more of the 20 Trail sites now part of the Hudson River School Art Trail, and to create and submit an original postcard-sized painting or drawing that is based on one of the iconic sites.

Artists interested in participating should follow the guidelines and find more information posted online at **www.thomascole.org/call-to-artists.** **Artworks along with a completed entry form are due at the Thomas Cole National Historic Site on or before Thursday August 15, 2013.** All work following guidelines, size requirements, and depicting one of the eligible Trail sites will be accepted. A complete list of sites - from views of the Hudson River to the magnificent Kaaterskill Falls to the "Gunks" in the Mohonk Preserve – may be found on the website at www.hudsonriverschool.org.

About the Thomas Cole National Historic Site

The Thomas Cole National Historic Site preserves and interprets the home and studios of Thomas Cole, the founder of the Hudson River School of painting, the nation's first major art movement. Cole's profound influence on America's cultural landscape inspires us to engage broad audiences through educational programs that are relevant today. The Thomas Cole Historic House is an independent non-profit organization and an affiliate of the National Park Service.

HOURS: The house is open for tours from 10 to 4pm, Wednesday through Sunday, May through November 3, 2013. Grounds are free and open to the public.