



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 6, 2014 / contact: info@thomascole.org

**The Thomas Cole National Historic Site issues an
OPEN CALL to Artists of All Ages for**

POSTCARDS from the TRAIL 2014

Artists are invited to make a painting or drawing of one of the 22 sites along the Hudson River School Art Trail for inclusion in the third annual “Postcards from the Trail” exhibition at the Thomas Cole National Historic Site on **Sunday September 28, 2014**. Past shows have received over 250 submissions and these popular one-day exhibitions and sales are highly attended. Artworks will be displayed in the East Parlour of Thomas Cole’s original 1815 home. The exhibition will be divided into two parts: adults age 18 and over and children age 17 and younger. There is no fee to enter.

In the 19th-century, painters including Thomas Cole, Frederic Church, Sandford Gifford, 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. Today, artists continue to create work that is inspired and informed by their experience in the very same landscapes. 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 places that inspired great landscape paintings of the 19th century. In June 2012 the Trail was greatly expanded, more than doubling its original size. In addition, the 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.

To celebrate the Art Trail and the many artists who continue to be inspired by these landscapes, all artists are again invited to visit one or more of the 22 sites on 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. A complete list of eligible Trail sites, from views of the Hudson River to the magnificent Kaaterskill Falls to the Mohonk “Gunks”, is included in the guidelines which can be found at: www.thomascole.org/call-to-artists.

A complimentary 5x7” canvas panel is available for pick-up at the Thomas Cole National Historic Site Visitor’s Center. Artists may also use their own canvas / materials, but entries must be at least 5x7” but no larger than 8x10”. Entries must be made on the provided canvas, your own canvas, stiff board, or paper mounted on board.

THOMAS COLE NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

Artists interested in participating should download the guidelines and find more information posted online. For complete instructions, please visit 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 September 6, 2014. All artworks that follow the guidelines and size requirements and depict one of the eligible Trail sites will be accepted.

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 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: Tours of the Main House, Old Studio, and special exhibition gallery leave every hour on the hour between 10am and 4pm, Wednesday- Sunday through November 2, 2014. The grounds are free and open to the public.