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## The Thomas Cole National Historic Site Announces an OPEN CALL for ARTWORK for the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Postcards OPEN CALL Exhibition: *Picturing the Sublime*



**Catskill, NY:** The Thomas Cole National Historic Site invites artists of all ages to submit new and original 5" x 7" works of art to the sixth annual postcards open call exhibition entitled *Picturing the Sublime* at the Thomas Cole National Historic Site. The exhibition will be presented at Thomas Cole's 1815 Main House on **Sunday, September 24**, the same day as the annual Community Day celebration offering free admission throughout the historic site. There is no submission fee, and **all entries that follow the guidelines and arrive by September 5, 2017** will be included in the exhibition. Guidelines, entry forms, and complimentary canvases are available at the Thomas Cole Site's Visitor Center. For more information visit [www.thomascole.org/call-to-artists](http://www.thomascole.org/call-to-artists).

In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the Hudson River School artists Thomas Cole, Frederic Church, Sanford Gifford, Jasper Cropsey, and others created landscapes depicting the Hudson River Valley and the Catskill Mountains which often emphasized the qualities of nature that they considered to be 'sublime.' For these painters, the sublime was a deep feeling of awe and sometimes even fear that was experienced through their personal *relationship with nature*. Today, many of these same landscapes remain remarkably unchanged. To celebrate the lasting impact of Thomas Cole, the founder of the Hudson River School, we invite artists to experience the sublime and create their own work of art that captures the

# THOMAS COLE NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

power of nature for the annual exhibition at the Thomas Cole Site. Whether it is a modern urban setting or untouched wilderness, we are specifically interested in your own relationship with the landscape of today. All interpretations are welcome.

**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. Located on 6 acres in the Hudson Valley, the site includes the 1815 Main House; Cole's 1839 Old Studio; the artist's designed, recently reconstructed "New Studio" gallery; and gardens. It is a National Historic Landmark and an affiliated area of the National Park System. The Cole Site's activities include guided tours, exhibitions, printed publications, extensive online programs, activities for school groups, free community events, lectures, and innovative public programs such as the Hudson River School Art Trail—a map and website that enables visitors to see the nearby views that Cole painted. The goal of all programs at the Cole Site is to enable visitors to find meaning and inspiration in Thomas Cole's life and work. The themes that Cole explored in his art and writings—such as landscape preservation and our conception of nature as a restorative power—are both historic and timely, providing the opportunity to connect to audiences with insights that are highly relevant to their own lives.

## **SAVE THE DATE / OPENING AUGUST 12:**

KIKI SMITH / *From the Creek*

## **And On VIEW through October 29:**

- + *Sanford R. Gifford in the Catskills*, an exhibition in the New Studio, curated by Kevin J. Avery.
- + *The Parlors*, an immersive experience combining technology and meticulous restoration of Cole's interior designs in his 1815 home, including the earliest-known interior decorative painting by an American artist.
- + *Mind Upon Nature: Thomas Cole's Creative Process*, an exhibition in the Main House featuring Cole's paintings and sketches.

**VISITOR INFORMATION** | The Thomas Cole National Historic Site is located at 218 Spring Street in Catskill, New York. Thomas Cole's home, studios, special exhibitions, and grounds are open May – October, Tuesday – Sunday 10-5 pm. For details see: [www.thomascole.org](http://www.thomascole.org).

# THOMAS COLE NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

## OPEN CALL for ARTWORK + GUIDELINES

### *Picturing the Sublime*

The 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Postcards OPEN CALL Exhibition 2017

Exhibition at the Thomas Cole National Historic Site

**Sunday, September 24, 2017**

**ARTWORK DUE:** September 5, 2017

***Please read all instruction guidelines before submitting work*** | In the 19<sup>th</sup> century, the Hudson River School artists Thomas Cole, Frederic Church, Sanford Gifford, Jasper Cropsey, and others created landscapes depicting the Hudson River Valley and the Catskill Mountains which often emphasized the qualities of nature that they considered to be 'sublime.' For these painters, the sublime was a deep feeling of awe and sometimes even fear that was experienced through their personal *relationship with nature*. Today, many of these same landscapes remain remarkably unchanged. To celebrate the lasting impact of Thomas Cole, the founder of the Hudson River School, we invite you to experience the sublime and create your own work of art that captures the power of nature for the annual exhibition at the Thomas Cole Site. Whether it is a modern urban setting or untouched wilderness, we are specifically interested in your own relationship with the landscape of today. All interpretations are welcome.

### EXHIBITION

All artists who submit work according to the theme and following the guidelines will be included in the exhibition, which will take place at the Thomas Cole National Historic Site on **September 24, 2017**.

### GUIDELINES

+ Artists may submit original painting, drawing, work on paper, collage, or mixed media work that fits on a 5x7" canvas or hard board (size must be inclusive of image area, margin, and borders).

+ **NOTE:** A complimentary **5x7" canvas panel** is available for pick-up at the Thomas Cole National Historic Site Visitor Center. Artists may also use their own canvas/materials. Entries must be made on provided canvas, your own canvas, stiff board, or paper mounted on board. Loose works on paper cannot be included. **All works must be unframed**, and will be hung with hook or removable, non-staining adhesive attached directly to back.

### HOW TO ENTER + TIMEFRAME

**Artists may submit 1 or 2 original artworks.** To be included in the exhibit, work must fall within the theme, meet required size, and arrive **with a completed entry form** on or before **September 5, 2017**. Entry forms may be downloaded at [www.thomascole.org/call-to-artists](http://www.thomascole.org/call-to-artists). *There is no fee to enter.*

Artworks from artists age 18 and over will be offered for sale for \$100. Artworks from artists age 17 and under will be offered for sale for \$25. Artists may choose "not for sale." The artist may choose to donate 100% of the purchase price or share 50/50. **All proceeds directly support programs at the Thomas Cole Historic Site.**

### DELIVER ARTWORK & FORM

**MAIL:** The Thomas Cole National Historic Site / *Attn: Postcards Exhibition*, 218 Spring Street, PO BOX 426, Catskill, NY 12414 | **IN PERSON:** Deliver to the **Visitor Center** at 218 Spring Street, Catskill, NY / Tues-Sun, 9:30-5pm.

**Please note:** All work that does not sell will need to be picked up from the site at the close of the exhibition. The Thomas Cole National Historic Site is not responsible for returning works. In the case that a work does not sell, we will notify participants and provide a two week timeframe to pick up work. *Any work not claimed and picked up after that time will be considered abandoned property, unless alternate arrangements are made in advance.* If you need to have your work mailed back, please make sure to include a self-addressed, stamped envelope large enough and safe for its return.

**QUESTIONS?** Email Adam Grimes at [agrimes@thomascole.org](mailto:agrimes@thomascole.org) or call 518.943.7465 xt 108

## ENTRY FORM

### *Picturing the Sublime 2017*

### The 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Postcards OPEN CALL Exhibition

**COMPLETED FORM is DUE with each ARTWORK no later than September 5, 2017.**

Community Day exhibition at the Thomas Cole National Historic Site, Sunday September 24, 2017.

Clearly Print Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Please CHECK:  adult entrant (18 or older) |  entrant (age 17 and under)

PLEASE DUPLICATE THIS FORM FOR EACH WORK SUBMITTED

+ Title of Artwork: \_\_\_\_\_

+ Year DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

+ Medium (oil, watercolor, graphite, etc.): \_\_\_\_\_

**Artworks that arrive on time with completed form and following guideline requirements will be included in the exhibition.**

**Please Note:** All works must be submitted unframed and should be 5x7." (This maximum size includes image and border.) All entries must come on a canvas, stiff board, or mounted to board. The Thomas Cole National Historic Site will provide one free canvas for each entrant to pick up from the site. Panels will not be mailed.

**All adult submissions will be offered for \$100 and kids submissions listed at \$25. Proceeds from the sale of artworks will go towards further research and development of the Thomas Cole National Historic Site. Please indicate one of the following terms:**

- Yes, please donate the entire purchase price
- Yes, please split the purchase price 50/50
- No, the work is not available for sale / NFS

*\*In the case that an artwork is not sold at the exhibit, participants will be notified and given a specific date span to pick up their work. TCNHS is not responsible for return of works and cannot hold unclaimed work.*

**DEADLINE:** All works must be received with this completed entry form no later than **September 5, 2017.**

**Please sign below to indicate agreement with this statement:** By entering this exhibition, I give permission for my submitted artwork to be reproduced in conjunction with the Hudson River School Art Trail for publicity purposes, in the website and/or application, on items for sale, and/or for educational purposes. As the artist, I retain copyright.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_