

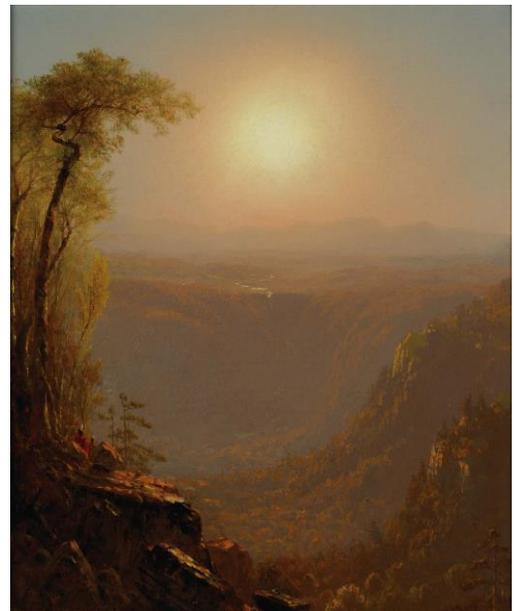


For Immediate Release: December 15, 2016
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For Immediate Release: Thomas Cole Site Awarded \$30,000 from the National Endowment for the Arts

Catskill, NY – We are pleased to announce that the Thomas Cole National Historic Site has been awarded an Art Works Grant of \$30,000 from the National Endowment for the Arts to support the 2017 exhibition *Sanford R. Gifford in the Catskills* and accompanying catalogue. The Art Works category focuses on the creation of art that meets the highest standards of excellence; public engagement with diverse and excellent art, lifelong learning in the arts, and the strengthening of communities through the arts.

Sanford R. Gifford in the Catskills opens in May 2017 and will be presented in Thomas Cole’s New Studio. The exhibition is curated by Kevin J. Avery, Senior Research Scholar at the Metropolitan Museum of Art. Sanford Gifford was a second generation Hudson River School painter from Hudson, NY who became known as a master of light and atmosphere. The exhibition will highlight Gifford’s creative process and for the first time bring the original paintings to a venue just a few miles from the sites that inspired them.



Sanford R. Gifford, Kauterskill Clove, in the Catskills, 1862, Oil on canvas, 12 7/8 x 11 1/16 in. Michael Altman/Michael Altman Fine Art & Advisory Services

For the full announcement from the National Endowment for the Arts [click here](#).



About the Thomas Cole National Historic Site

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, 1839 Old Studio, the newly reconstructed 1846 New Studio, and several other buildings. It is a National Historic Landmark and an affiliated area of the National Park System. Following a restoration of the Main House, the Cole Site opened to the public in 2001. The 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. Each year, the Cole Site organizes a loan exhibition of Hudson River School paintings, providing a first-hand experience with the art movement that Cole founded. 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.

Visit

Thomas Cole's home, studios, special exhibitions, and grounds are open May – October, Tuesday – Sunday 9:30 to 5pm. For details visit: www.thomascole.org.