

THOMAS COLE NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

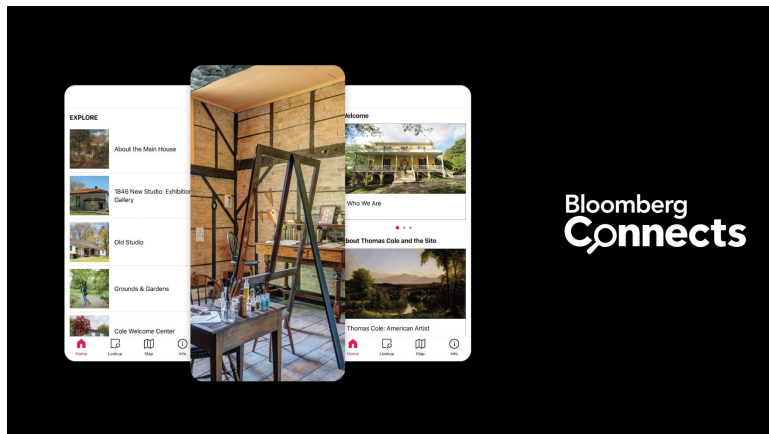


Contact: Jennifer Greim, jgreim@thomascole.org
Director of Advancement and External Affairs

The Thomas Cole National Historic Site Launches New Digital Guide Featuring Photos, Videos, and Audio From World-Renowned Contemporary Artists, Curators and the Museum’s Executive Director

With This Free Guide, the Thomas Cole Site Joins Hundreds of Cultural Institutions Around the Globe on the Bloomberg Connects App

Catskill, NY – Wednesday, September 4, 2024 – Today, the Thomas Cole National Historic Site launched a new, digital guide featuring photos, videos, and audio from world-renowned contemporary artists and curators. The free guide can be used on a visit to the museum or experienced from home and was created as part of Bloomberg Connects, the arts and cultural app created by Bloomberg Philanthropies. The free [Bloomberg Connects](#) app is available for download on the App Store or Google Play.



The new guide takes you behind the scenes at the Thomas Cole National Historic Site with exclusive multimedia perspectives from artists, curators, and more. The audio guide features a welcome from the executive director Elizabeth B. Jacks, insights from the curator of our special exhibition *Native Prospects: Indigeneity and Landscape*, Scott Manning Stevens, PhD / Karoniaktatsie (Akwesasne Mohawk), and exhibiting contemporary artists Teresa Baker (Mandan/Hidatsa), Brandon Lazore (Onondaga, Snipe Clan), Alan Michelson (Mohawk member of the Six Nations of the Grand River), and Kay WalkingStick (Cherokee), as well as voice audio of Thomas Cole’s original writing brought to life by the Hollywood actor Jamie Bell.

The guide allows visitors to explore all that this national historic landmark and art museum have to offer, including rotating special exhibitions, the historic artist’s home and studios, the museum collection, multimedia experiences, gardens and grounds, and

more. The Thomas Cole National Historic Site is located in New York’s Hudson Valley and marks the home and studios of the artist and early environmentalist Thomas Cole (1801-1848). Cole is best known for founding the influential art movement known as the Hudson River School of American landscape painting.

“The Thomas Cole National Historic Site is two visits in one: a 19th-century historic site and an art museum, offering world-class historic and contemporary changing exhibitions,” said Executive Director Elizabeth B. Jacks. “This free Digital Guide with Bloomberg Connects allows our visitors to take a leading role in navigating their own experience and tapping into the cultural offerings that best serve their interests, whether it’s accessing previously hidden stories of the many fascinating people who lived here in the 19th century or hearing directly from contemporary artists that draw inspiration from Thomas Cole’s legacy today.”

Bloomberg Connects offers free digital guides to cultural organizations around the world. The app platform is part of Bloomberg Philanthropies’ longstanding commitment to supporting digital innovation in the arts. Bloomberg Connects makes it easy to access and engage with arts and culture from mobile devices when visiting in person, or anytime from anywhere. With dynamic content exclusive to each partner organization, the app provides a range of features including video, audio, and text; expert commentary; and way-finding maps. Follow Bloomberg Connects on [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#), and [X](#) for updates on new guide launches, exhibit highlights, and more.

The free [Bloomberg Connects](#) app is available for download from Google Play or the App Store or by scanning the QR code here:



Bloomberg Philanthropies

Bloomberg Philanthropies invests in 700 cities and 150 countries around the world to ensure better, longer lives for the greatest number of people. The organization focuses on creating lasting change in five key areas: the Arts, Education, Environment, Government Innovation, and Public Health. Bloomberg Philanthropies encompasses all of Michael R. Bloomberg's giving, including his foundation, corporate, and personal philanthropy as well as Bloomberg Associates, a philanthropic consultancy that advises cities around the world. In 2023, Bloomberg Philanthropies distributed \$3 billion. For more information, please visit bloomberg.org.

Thomas Cole National Historic Site

The Thomas Cole National Historic Site is an international destination presenting the original home and studios of the artist and early environmentalist Thomas Cole (1801-1848). Cole founded the influential art movement of the United States, now known as the Hudson River School of American landscape painting. Located on 6 acres in the Hudson Valley, the site includes the 1815 Main House; Cole's 1839 Old Studio; the reconstructed 1846 New Studio building; and panoramic views of the Catskill Mountains. It is a National Historic Landmark and an affiliated area of the National Park System. Activities include special exhibitions of both 19th-century and contemporary art, print publications, lectures, extensive online programs, school programs, the Cole Fellowship, free community events, and innovative public programs such as the Hudson River School Art Trail—a map and website that enable people to visit the places in nature that Cole painted—and the Hudson River Skywalk, a new scenic walkway connecting the Thomas Cole Site with Frederic Church's Olana over the Hudson River. The goal of all programs at the Thomas 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.

Visitor Information

The hours of the Thomas Cole National Historic Site vary by season. For details see: thomascole.org/visit. The grounds are open every day for free from dawn to dusk. Keep in touch on Instagram, Facebook and X at [@thomascolesite](https://www.instagram.com/thomascolesite).