

THURSDAYS - FALL 2026

TH36 Albany Institute of History and Art Tour of the Hudson River School Collection

Teresa Rivas

Thurs., Sept. 3; 10am - 3pm

Min 3 / Max 15

Albany, NY

Join Teresa Rivas as she guides us through the Hudson River School collection at the Albany Institute of History & Art. Her tour will provide an understanding of how artists such as Thomas Cole, Fredrick Church and Asher B. Durand used the natural landscape to help shape 19th-century American identity.

Bio: Teresa is a retired art teacher and art history professor.

Fee: \$10 per person (seniors); Payable at the venue.

Directions: 125 Washington Avenue, Albany, NY 12210. Free parking is available to museum visitors in the Albany Institute's parking lot, located at the corner of Dove St. and Elk St. Metered parking is available on surrounding streets. We will meet at the admissions desk.

TH37 Crochet Class

Marge Dafeldecker

Thurs., Sept. 3,10,17,24,

Oct. 1,8,15,22; 1:15 - 2:45 pm

St Vincent's Social Hall

If you are interested in doing some crafting, consider joining us for a Crochet Class. Learn, renew or revisit the basics in the art of crocheting. Try your hands at creating enduring crocheted items for baby/child such as clothing or toys/Amigurumi stuffed animals. Crochet items for the home: dishcloths, hand towels, coasters, placemats, doilies to larger projects such as blankets, comforters, tablecloths. Make clothing items for adults, including yourself. Try shoeless sandals. The possibilities are endless, but the class time is limited. This class will get you started. If you have any started projects, by all means, bring them.

Participants should bring: Please bring one or two crochet hooks to the first class, Size D or E (#4 or 5) and /or G (#7 or H #8) as well as one or two skeins of yarn. Metal hooks are best. Light color yarns are recommended, It is difficult to see the stitches with dark colors. Sports (#3) or Worsted (#4) weights are easier to work with for beginners, D/E hooks for sports Wt, G/H for worsted WT.

Bio: Marge was "hooked" at the age of ten when she was introduced to the art of Crochet by an adult cousin. She continued to practice stitches, became a regular customer at JoAnn's, taught herself how to make baby outfits for her daughter, and has been sharing her skills with anyone who wants to learn.

Directions: St. Vincent's Church, 138 Washington Ave, Cobleskill, NY 12043; lower level

TH38 Sharing Contemporary Poetry

Sandra Manchester

Min 1 / Max 6

Thurs., Sept. 3, 10, 17; 10 - 11:30am

CUMC - Social Hall

Written within our lifetime (from the Mid-20th century to the present day), contemporary poetry is less focused on traditional form. The poems will explore modern issues and personal experiences. In class we will be reading poems aloud and discussing the topics of the poems. Sandra will be introducing us to the works of James Wright, Donald Justice and Lucille Clifton to name a few poets. Participants will be encouraged to share some of their favorite poets.

Bio: Sandra Manchester has a BA in Literature from the State University of New York at Oneonta. Poetry has been a part of her life for over thirty years. She has participated in writing workshops through the New York Writers Institute, Pyramid Life Center, and Sharon Springs Poetry Festival. She participates locally in a writers' critique group.

Directions: Cobleskill United Methodist Church, 107 Chapel Street, Cobleskill, NY

TH39 Using Libby to Download FREE EBooks, Audiobooks, and Magazines

Brooke DeAngelo

Min 1 / Max 10

Thurs., Sept. 10; 1 - 2:30 pm

The Community Library, Cobleskill

Are you interested in using your device to download free books, audiobooks and magazines? This workshop explores the Libby App and demonstrates how to use it to access free reading material. All you need is your library card and a device.

Participants should bring your laptop, tablet, Kindle/Fire, phone, power cords, Amazon passwords, and your library card. Don't have a library card? Stop into your local library and staff will assist you. Reminder: for a new card you will need photo identification and a piece of mail to verify your address.

Bio: Licensed AARP Senior Planet Trainer. Library Assistant at The Community Library since March 2026. Received my Masters in Library and Information Studies from Old Dominion University in December 2025.

Directions: The Community Library, 110 Union St., Cobleskill, NY 12043

TH40 Basic German

Jeannette Balins

Thurs., Sept. 17, 24, Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22; 11:45 am - 1:15 pm

Min 1 / Max 10

St. Vincent's Social Hall

This is a continuation of last semester's Introduction to German. For those who have a bit of knowledge of German, you are welcome to join us.

Participants should bring: In case you don't already have the textbook we are using, please purchase "The Berlitz Self Teacher - German" (available on Amazon).

Bio: Jeannette studied German in Germany and in Austria. She also taught at the International School of Languages in NYC.

Directions: Lower level, 138 Washington Ave., Cobleskill, NY

TH41 Herkimer Home Tour and Walk along Canalway

Carolyn Melszer

Thurs., Sept. 17; 11 am - 2 pm

RSVP by 9/10/26

Little Falls, NY

This class will start out touring the beautiful Herkimer Home, a Georgian-style mansion, situated overlooking the picturesque Mohawk River. It was constructed in 1764 for American General Nicholas Herkimer. In 1777, General Herkimer assembled 800 militiamen, supported by 60 allied Oneida warriors, and marched to defend Fort Stanwix against a British siege. Considered to be a significant turning point in the Revolutionary War, the Battle of Oriskany, fought on August 6, 1777, has been described as one of the bloodiest battles of the war. Although wounded in the leg, Herkimer kept command during fierce combat. After the battle, he was carried home where he died 10 days later from complications following the amputation of his leg.

After the tour we plan a 2 mile walk along the Canalway, which follows the Mohawk River.

Participants should bring: Wear comfortable shoes, bring water and a lunch if you wish. We can dine at a restaurant in Little Falls after the hike.

Fee: \$5 for seniors or \$6 per adult (this includes a \$2 tip); Payable to SCHOOL. Sign up and pay by 9/10/26. No refunds after that date.

Directions: Herkimer Home, 200 State Route 169, Little Falls, NY 13365

TH42 Hudson River School of Art Immersion

Julia Walsh & Beth Wynne

Thurs., Sept. 24; 10 am - 4 pm

RSVP by 9/10/26

Min 10 / Max 40

Hudson & Catskill, NY

Jump into the Hudson River School of art with this full-day excursion.

We will begin our day at Olana for a tour called "Sketching as Seeing." Dive into Frederic Church's artistic process and learn how he used pencil sketches and studies to prepare to create final painted canvases. Students will familiarize themselves with Church's outdoor sketching (Plein Air) techniques and develop a deeper understanding of his own artistic approach. Students will examine the way landscape paintings relate to social, cultural, and environmental questions and concerns. The program includes a guided tour of the historic house and a walking tour of the landscape.

The second part of the day will be spent at the Thomas Cole National Historic Site in Catskill. The site showcases the life and work of Thomas Cole (1801- 1848), whose American landscape painting defines an enduring visual identity for the nation. Inspired by the natural beauty that surrounds the site, Cole founded the influential Hudson River School art movement. The site's six-acre campus in Catskill, NY, includes Cole's historic home and two studio buildings; the Cole Center, a new visitor center designed by Architectural Digest 100 Stephen Shadley; gardens and grounds with panoramic views of the Catskill Mountains; and a scenic walkway over the Hudson River connecting the site with Olana, the historic home of artist and Cole student Frederic Church. Visitors experience first-hand the themes that Cole explored, from the power of art to landscape preservation to the restorative properties of nature. And take in the most spectacular view of the Catskill Mountain range, which Cole painted more than any other subject. See original Cole paintings and works by his followers, experience the artist's bold interior designs, discover rotating special exhibitions of historic and contemporary art, explore the blossoming flower gardens, and take a moment to relax and shop in the new AD100-designed Visitor Center and Coffee Bar.

Participants should bring comfortable walking shoes. Bring an umbrella in case of rain. Bring a bag lunch, or money with which to purchase lunch, and plenty of water for hydration.

Bio: Julia Walsh is the Education Coordinator at Olana Partnership, Beth Wynne is Education Coordinator at Thomas Cole National Historic Site.

Fee: \$35 per person; Payable to SCHOOL. Sign up and pay by 9/10/26 No refunds after that date.

Directions: Olana State Historic Park 5720 State Route 9G, Hudson, NY 12534 ; Thomas Cole National Historic Site, 218 Spring St, Catskill, NY 12414

TH43 Connecting the Dots: Beginner Sewing 2

Ann & Rachel Kelchlin

Max 6

Thurs., Oct. 1, 8, 15, 22; 9 am - 1 pm

Cobleskill CCE

Looking to dust off that sewing machine and put it to use?!

Come join us and continue exploring the art of sewing. We will explore and learn the basics of sewing, including a review of the concepts of bias, straight of the goods (grain or selvage) and crossgrain. By learning basic sewing concepts no project is limited. How do you buy fabric or choose the appropriate fabric for the project? Learn how to read a pattern. We will make several simple projects applying the learned skills.

Participants should please bring your own sewing machine, thread, pins and scissors. If you don't have a sewing machine or supplies let the instructor know! No barriers!

Bio: Instructor has decades of sewing experience starting at age 8 as a 4H member and continuing on being a leader of 4-H teaching my children and now grandchildren how to sew and many life skills.

Directions: Cobleskill Cornell Cooperative Extension, 173 S. Grand St. Cobleskill NY

TH44 Lift Every Voice & Sing:

Songs of Compassion, Community, and Friendship

Clare Wettemann

Min 8

Thurs., Oct. 1; 3 - 4:30 pm

CUMC - Chapel

Songs can tell stories, amplify feelings, take us to new places, and share joys or sorrows. Clare Wettemann weaves tales of history, love, and people's diverse experiences into folk-style ballads while accompanying herself on guitar, psaltery, dulcimers and other stringed instruments. Some of her songs are original while others are well-known folksongs. If you've ever wondered why the ladies in Britain dance at Whitsuntide, when, traditionally, it was done by men, Clare has a song to explain. She'll share the inspiration for "America the Beautiful" and sing her rendition. She'll explain what makes farmers special in "Men of the Fields". When she sings "Isle Au Haut" you'll hear how Gordon Bok created a song as simple, and as beautiful, as an island. You'll hear about a "Magic Penny" and the "Roseville Fair" and much more. Clare's knowledge of folk songs is wide and varied, and there is sure to be a song or two that will have you tapping or singing along.

Participants should bring: Ears, heart, interest and attention.

Bio: Clare Wettemann delights in presenting songs for all ages. She accompanies her voice with guitar, psaltery, dulcimers, and other stringed instruments. For many years, she has woven images from Upstate N.Y. and other Anglo-American and French folk songs into entertaining programs.

Directions: Cobleskill United Methodist Church, 107 Chapel Street, Cobleskill, NY

TH45 Holiday Greens Centerpiece with Cross Hill Heirlooms

Jenna Mallette King

Thurs., Dec. 3; 11 am - 12:30 pm

RSVP by 11/29/26

Max 10

France Lane, Cobleskill, NY

Join Jenna Mallette King to create a holiday centerpiece. Using foam, pine greens, boxwood, pinecones, ornaments, and a small taper candle, you will produce a beautiful centerpiece. She'll even give you some tips to keep it going through December.

Participants should bring: Bring pruners or scissors you like to work with.

Allergy note: Pine boughs and pine sap will be on site and used in the process.

Bio: After starting out in landscaping and heirloom vegetable gardening, Jenna earned her certification from the Floral Design Institute. She has been owner and designer at Cross Hill Heirlooms for six years.

Fee: \$12 per person; Payable to SCHOOL. Sign up and pay by 11/19/26. No refunds after that date.

Directions: 116 France Lane, Cobleskill, NY 12043

TH46 Exploring RX Drug Resources Online

Brooke DeAngelo

Thurs., Oct. 8; 1 - 2:30 pm

Min 1 / Max 10

Community Library, Cobleskill

The internet offers many prescription drug resources, if you know where to look! During this hands-on lecture, you'll learn to find reliable information about drugs on MedlinePlus. You'll also use websites for comparing prices at different pharmacies and searching for coupons.

Participants should bring: Laptops will be provided.

Bio: Licensed AARP Senior Planet Trainer. Library Assistant at The Community Library since March 2026. Received my Masters in Library and Information Studies from Old Dominion University in December 2025.

Directions: The Community Library, 110 Union St., Cobleskill, NY 12043

TH47 Writing Your Memories

Beth Cash

Thurs., Oct. 8, 15, 22, 29; 11 - 12:30 pm

Min 4 / Max 10

CUMC Library

What are the stories that you would like to tell? People who follow you will be able to determine where you lived and when you were born but only you can tell your stories. This course will help you focus on two or three stories and write them so that they are finished. There will be suggestions on what to write and opportunities to read your writing aloud if you wish.

Participants should bring: Notebook and pen or pencil

Directions: Cobleskill United Methodist Church, 107 Chapel Street, Cobleskill, NY

TH48 Cuisine of Turkey

Jeannette Balins

Thurs., Oct. 29; 12:30 - 5:30 pm

RSVP by Oct. 15

Min 5 / Max 10

Worcester, NY

My recent trip to Istanbul served as inspiration to offer a class featuring a few Turkish specialties:

Red Lentil Soup
Zucchini Fritters
Braised leeks & Rice
Eggplant Pie (made with Phyllo)
Chicken with Walnut Paprika Sauce
Dessert: Almond and Rice Flour Custard

Participants should please bring an apron and small containers for samples of food you made.

Bio: Formerly Chef/Owner of "A Taste of Europe" Catering and Restaurant

Fee: \$35 per person; Payable to SCHOOL. Sign up and pay by 10/15/26. No refunds after that date.

Directions: 2607 Co. Hwy 39 Worcester, NY

TH49 Austrian Desserts

Jeannette Balins

RSVP by Oct. 22

Min 5 / Max 10

Thurs., Nov. 5; 12:30 - 5:30 pm

Worcester, NY

Austria is famous for an array of luscious desserts. The ones I chose for this class reflect the different types:

“Linzertorte” (Linzer Cake)

“Kaiserschmarrn” (Emperor’s Pancake)

“Sachertorte” (Sacher Cake)

“Topfenpalatchinken” (Cottage Cheese Crepes)

“Faschingskrapfen” (Carnival Jelly Doughnuts)

Participants should please bring an apron and containers for samples of what you made.

Bio: Formerly Chef/Owner of “A Taste of Europe” Catering and Restaurant

Fee: \$33 per person; Payable to SCHOOL. Sign up and pay by 10/22/26. No refunds after that date.

Directions: 2607 Co. Hwy 39 Worcester, NY

TH50 More Old Summit Farms, Etc.

Karen Cuccinello

Thurs., Nov. 5; 11 am - noon

Summit, NY

Slide show of farms in Summit, then & now, including photos of the livestock raised and farm equipment used back in the day. Stories about the farmers will go along with the photos. Plus Karen will include assorted other stories ie: a game show host with connections to Eminence and a summer camp in Charlottesville.

Bio: Town of Summit and Village of Stamford Historian, coordinator of APHNYS Region #7 and author of lots of Schoharie County history books.

Directions: Summit Town Hall 1580 Charlotte Valley Rd, Summit, NY 12175

TH51 Iroquois Museum "Talkin' Bout a Revolution" Exhibit-

Guided Tour

Tina Dawson & Mike Tarbell

Thurs., Nov. 12; 10 am - noon

RSVP by Oct. 29

Min 10 / Max 25

Howes Cave, NY

View the Iroquois Museum with the help of the observant eyes of Mike Tarbell, Mohawk Turtle Clan. The art exhibit entitled "Talkin' Bout a Revolution: A Haudenosaunee Response to the 250th" features nineteen artists including Shelley Niro, Peter Jemison, Sayokla Kindness Linley Logan, Carla Hemlock, and others from across Haudenosaunee Country. The artists offer their insightful, at times divergent, viewpoints on the foundational 250th American Anniversary. We will also be able to view the exhibit "Separated But Unbroken: The Haudenosaunee Boarding School Experience" which was curated by Erin Keaton and the museum curator staff. The exhibit includes letters, photographs and objects from the Thomas Indian School. After the guided tour, be sure to take time to visit the permanent exhibits showing contemporary, historical and archaeological finds.

Bio: SUNY Cobleskill Professor, Mohawk Turtle Clan, with 25 + years of sharing Haudenosaunee stories and experiences

Fee: \$10 per person; Payable to SCHOOL. Sign up and pay by 10/29/26. No refunds after that date.

Directions: 324 Caverns Road, Howes Cave, NY 12092

TH52 What We Miss...or Don't

Sue DeBruijn

Thurs., Nov. 12; 1:30 - 2:30 pm

St Vincent's Social Hall

Let's wax nostalgic! Through our many trips around the sun we have seen a lot of changes, some good, some not. Let's have a discussion about some of those things that we miss, for example full-service gas stations, and also some things we don't miss, such as smoking allowed on airplanes. It will be fun and interesting to hear what others miss or don't, so come prepared to share.

Directions: St. Vincent's Church, 138 Washington Ave, Cobleskill, NY 12043; lower level

TH53 New York World's Fair 1964-65

Ron Ketelsen

Thurs., Dec. 3; 2 - 3:30 pm

ZOOM

Step back in time to one of the most spectacular events of the 20th century — the 1964-65 New York World's Fair and the Great Big Beautiful Tomorrow, where the future arrived early and the world gathered in Queens to witness it. From the iconic Unisphere to the gleaming pavilions of corporate giants like Ford, IBM, and General Electric, the Fair was a dazzling celebration of technology, optimism, and the boundless American imagination. It was here that visitors got their first glimpse of the push-button telephone, the computer, and even a prototype of something called a "picturephone" — innovations that would reshape everyday life for generations to come. But beyond the gadgets and the gleaming chrome, the Fair told a deeper story about who we were as a nation in the turbulent '60s — our dreams, our contradictions, and our unshakable belief that tomorrow would be better than today. Join us as we journey through the midways and pavilions of this unforgettable event, exploring its lasting legacy on American culture, design, and our enduring vision of the future.

Directions: Zoom link will be sent to registrants just prior to the date.

TH54 George Washington and the American Revolutionary War

Ron Ketelsen

Thurs., Dec. 10; 2 - 3:30 pm

ZOOM

Before he was a monument, before he was a myth, before he was the face on the dollar bill — he was a man standing at the edge of impossible odds, leading a freezing, starving, outnumbered army against the most powerful military force on earth. The story of George Washington and the American Revolutionary War is not just a history lesson — it is one of the greatest tales of courage, resilience, and leadership ever told. From the disastrous early defeats that nearly crushed the rebellion, to the legendary crossing of the icy Delaware River on Christmas night, to the ultimate triumph at Yorktown that changed the course of human history, Washington's journey is as thrilling as any novel and as relevant as today's headlines. But who was the real man behind the legend? What drove him, what haunted him, and what nearly broke him? Join us for a fascinating exploration of the Revolutionary War through the eyes of the commander who refused to quit, and discover how one man's determination helped birth a new nation and reshape the world forever.

Directions: Zoom link will be sent to registrants just prior to the date.

TH55 A Christmas Carol: The Surprising Story Behind Dickens' Classic

Ron Ketelsen

Thurs., Dec. 17; 2 - 3:30 pm

ZOOM

Every December, the ghost of Ebenezer Scrooge rattles his chains across stages, screens, and bookshelves around the world — but how much do you really know about the remarkable story behind the story? In 1843, a young Charles Dickens, driven by outrage over the desperate poverty of England's children and haunted by the misery of his own childhood, sat down and wrote a little book that would change Christmas forever. He wrote it in a white-hot six weeks, walked fifteen miles a night through the darkened streets of London to fuel his imagination, and wept and laughed alone at his desk as the characters came to life. When it was published, it sold out by Christmas Eve and moved readers to tears — and within months, productions were appearing on stages across two continents. Join us for a captivating journey into the surprising true story behind A Christmas Carol — the desperate financial pressures, the social injustices, and the burst of inspired genius that transformed one man's passion into the most beloved holiday tale in the English language, and helped reinvent our very idea of Christmas itself.

Directions: Zoom link will be sent to registrants just prior to the date.