

**Art History:** American Art: From the Hudson River School to Louis Comfort Tiffany

**Faculty:** Nancy Green, Gale & Ira Drukier Curator, Johnson Museum of Art (retired)

**Week Two:** July 12 – 18, 2026

**Schedule:** Monday - Friday, 9-12 and 1:30-3:30, except Wednesday afternoon.

**Location:** Olin Library, Room 108 (Monday a.m. only); Large Classroom, Herbert F. Johnson Museum of Art; with some field trips.

Dear CAU Summer 2026 Art History Participants,

I am so excited to be sharing this week with you exploring over a century of American Art, from the paintings of the Hudson River School to the works of Louis Comfort Tiffany and to take you on the road to four other wonderful upstate New York museums: the Corning Museum of Glass and the Rockwell Museum in Corning, New York, and the Memorial Art Museum and the Eastman House in Rochester.

We'll begin our journey in Olin Library on Monday where we will start with a lecture on some of the Hudson River School painters and another in which we'll discuss John James Audubon and Winslow Homer in depth. In the afternoon we'll break into two groups: half will go to Kroch Library to look at Audubon's magnificent *Birds of America* portfolios (Kroch has one of the only ten intact portfolios left) and also take a look at the Civil War portfolio of Alexander Gardiner. The other half will have a lecture on early photography and then we'll switch, so no one misses anything!

On Tuesday we'll be setting off for Corning where we will first visit the Rockwell Museum which houses an important collection of art of the west, including some stellar works by Native American artists. After lunch we will explore the magnificent Corning Museum of Glass. I know I will have to drag you all out of their amazing gift shop but there is so much else to do there and we'll have some time to look on our own. We don't want to miss the glass blowers either!

Wednesday will find us meeting in the lobby of I.M. Pei's Johnson Museum. Here we will have a lecture on the art of three important expatriate artists: James McNeill Whistler, John Singer Sargent, and Mary Cassatt. After our break we will be in the galleries.

On Thursday we hit the road again for our drive to Rochester. Our first stop will be the Memorial Art Gallery, another gem of a museum, with a terrific collection of works by American artists. There will be time to look at the other collections as well and to enjoy a browse in their craft-oriented gift shop. After lunch we will explore the Eastman House, one of the greatest collections of photography in the world.

Friday will find us back at the museum looking at works in our collection by Tiffany. The day will round out with lectures about the Arts and Crafts Movement in America, a look at the Ashcan School painters, and a look at how Japanese art influenced American art, beginning with the "opening up" of Japan by Admiral Perry in 1852.

Phew! A busy week but I hope filled with new ideas, discussions, and, of course, fun and laughter and meeting new friends (and greeting old ones)! I look forward to seeing all of you!

Warmly,

Nancy Green, Gale & Ira Drukier Curator, Johnson Museum of Art (retired)