

SPRING APPEAL 2010

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The Olana Partnership
 P.O. Box 199, Hudson, New York 12534
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Olana

The Olana Partnership
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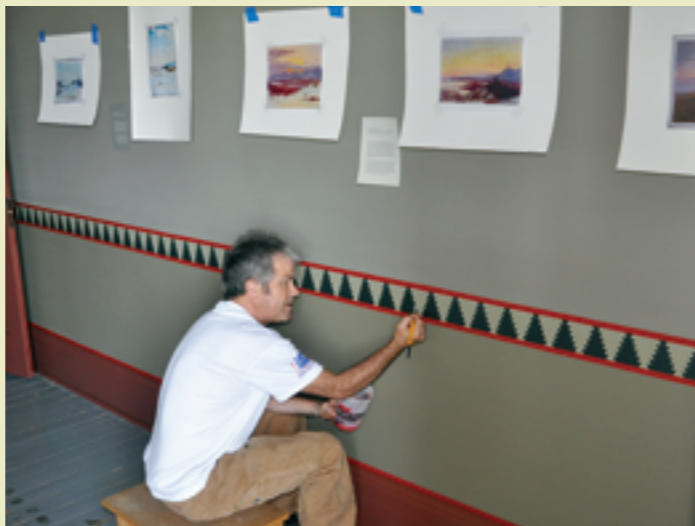
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Planting at Olana. Photo by Robert Burns



The Journey at the Wagon House Education Center. Photo by Cheryl O'Donnell



The Olana Partnership funded restoration painter Robert Hills in Evelyn and Maurice Sharp Gallery. Photo by Nelson Sterner



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YEAR-END REVIEW 2009

Olana Partnership

THE OLANA PARTNERSHIP YEAR-END REVIEW 2009

The projects outlined were accomplished through the combined efforts of The Olana Partnership staff and our colleagues employed by New York State. Our success is a result of the strength of our longstanding public-private partnership.

Curatorial: This year, reproduction wallpapers were created for the Church's second floor bedroom suite and will be installed in March 2010. The curatorial staff has been working to prepare the next exhibition in the Evelyn and Maurice Sharp Gallery—*Fern Hunting among These Picturesque Mountains: Frederic Edwin Church in Jamaica*, which will open in June. Curatorial projects completed in 2009 include the reproduction of the corridor carpet, restoration and reupholstery of two collections chairs and a stool in the Court Hall, and the completion of the East Parlor stencil restoration.

Farm Complex/Education: *River School*, a new week-long dramatic arts summer program for children, was established to build upon and complement the two summer sessions of *The Journey*. The weekend *Art in the Barn* drop in art studio program grew tremendously to serve over 600 participants. Work on the historic main barn moved forward with the completion of a conditions survey and an architectural firm engaged to undertake design work for the restoration.

Landscape/Viewshed: The Carriage drive drainage and resurfacing project was completed during the summer. Viewshed clearing continued on the remaining three acres along Ridge Road. A major grant was awarded from the Burpee Foundation to undertake our first significant replanting project in the park. The design and maintenance plan for the restoration of the kitchen garden and peach orchard was also completed.

Programming: *Glories of the Hudson: Frederic Edwin Church's Views from Olana* was the inaugural exhibition in the new Evelyn and Maurice Sharp Gallery at Olana. The exhibit opened in May with a public lecture featuring Frank Kelly, Deputy Director and Chief Curator of the National Gallery. A joint symposium organized in conjunction with the Thomas Cole House featuring papers presented by students from Bard, Vassar, Marist, SUNY New Paltz, Dutchess Community College and Columbia-Greene Community College was held at Bard's Fischer Center in April.

Visitor Experience: The Olana sign project, installing uniform direction and informational signage throughout the site, was completed. An interactive kiosk for the Glories exhibition was installed in the visitor center to provide ADA access to the exhibit. For the first time in 40 years, access to the servant's areas and bedrooms on the second floor of the main house was opened for public tours.

Fundraising: Several Quadricentennial-related grants were secured for Olana programs during the year. Due to increased challenges posed by a weakened economy, income from the Annual Fund, Membership and local events ended the year approximately 20% under budget. The Frederic Edwin Church award dinner honoring Jonathan Westervelt Warner and Franklin Wood Kelly was held in December and exceeded revenue goal, minimizing potential impact of decreased donations and memberships. Proceeds from the 2009 gala established the Jack Warner Fund for Creativity and Innovation to benefit the educational endowment and future exhibitions.

Community Relations: Olana enjoyed several successful collaborative initiatives in 2009, including work with Cedar Grove, Bard College, Girl Scouts of Northeastern New York, Scenic Hudson, Columbia Land Conservancy, Home Sweet Home on the Hudson, US-China People's Friendship Association, Columbia County Lodging Association, Columbia-Greene Mental Health Association, Hudson Lion's Club, Cooper-Hewitt Museum, Samuel Dorsky Museum, Greenport Garden Club, and Initiatives with Arts & Culture. Olana staff also presented at a NY Historical Society free afternoon program, Bard's LLI, SUNY Albany's Greater Hudson Heritage Network, Hudson Rotary Club, and the Chamber Tourism Development Council.

Government Relations: Olana staff members participated in Arts Day in Albany and had meetings with Tourism committees, Senator Stephen Saland, Assemblyman Marcus Molinaro, Assemblyman Richard Brodsky and Assemblyman Steven Englebright throughout the year.

Visibility: Two recognition awards were received, one from the Greater Hudson Network and another from the Upstate History Alliance. Olana's landscape was selected by the Cultural Landscape Foundation for the Landslide program. The Olana Partnership was nominated as one of five finalists for the Columbia County Chamber Crystal Apple Award. The Olana website was completely redesigned and a Facebook fan site was created. Olana received significant media coverage throughout the year including articles in the New York Times, Albany Times Union, Register Star, Catskill Daily Mail, WDST, WAMC, NPR and a national television segment on the Martha Stewart Show.

SUPPORTERS MEMBERS & DONORS JANUARY 1, 2009 - FEBRUARY 28, 2010

While we make every effort to include every name, omissions are unfortunately inevitable. If we have omitted anything, or reported it incorrectly, please accept our apologies.

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2010 and beyond: Olana will open its second exhibition, *Fern Hunting among These Picturesque Mountains: Frederic Edwin Church in Jamaica*, in the Evelyn and Maurice Sharp Gallery and will publish a correlating exhibition catalogue. A free contemporary photography exhibit will also be displayed June through October in the newly revitalized Coachmen's House. The Viewshed restoration project along Ridge Road will be completed and plans to begin the second restoration phase will be undertaken. Additional 2010 landscape plans include the first phase tree planting throughout the park under the direction of a newly hired Landscape Curator.

We are appreciative of the individuals, foundations, corporations and governmental entities that generously support Olana. We are especially grateful to Governor David A. Paterson, Parks Commissioner Carol Ash, Senator Stephen Saland, Assemblyman Marcus Molinaro, and Taconic Regional Director Jayne McLaughlin. We particularly wish to thank Senators Charles Schumer and Kirsten Gillibrand and Congressman Scott Murphy, as well as Roy Brown, Chair of the Columbia County Board of Supervisors and Edward Nabozny, Supervisor for the Town of Greenport for their leadership in support of Olana. Finally, we wish to acknowledge our colleague and friend Linda McLean, Olana's historic site manager. Olana's dedicated volunteers make a huge difference to the operation of the site and we applaud their generosity of time and energy. ■

