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THE OLANA PARTNERSHIP AWARDED \$420,000 ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION FUND HISTORIC PRESERVATION GRANT FOR HISTORIC FARM LANDSCAPE RESTORATION

HUDSON, NY—

The Olana Partnership (TOP) has been awarded a \$420,000 grant from the New York State Environmental Protection Fund (EPF) Historic Preservation Program to help fund the restoration of Frederic Church's historic farm at Olana State Historic Site. The award announced last month by Governor Andrew M. Cuomo is part of the annual Regional Economic Development Council Initiative (REDC) grant process and was the second largest grant made in Columbia County. This project will make a major contribution to the preservation of one of New York State's most important historic properties, to its significance as an educational resource for our communities, and to tourism and economic development in the Capital Region.

"We are thrilled to have this level of support from the Capital Region Economic Development Council for the vision of a fully restored Olana. The return of Church's farm will complete the restoration of the artist-designed landscape and enrich the experience for every visitor to Olana," said TOP's President, Sean Sawyer.

"Columbia County's cultural and historical assets are one of its great economic strengths. The grant awarded to The Olana Partnership shows that the Capital Region and New York State recognize the importance of continuing to strengthen these assets. CEDC is excited to see Olana's ongoing restoration that will lead to increased tourism, educational opportunities, and economic activity for Columbia County", said F. Michael Tucker, President & CEO of Columbia Economic Development Corporation.

Frederic Church's ornamental and working farm was central to his vision for the property yet has been absent from the landscape for more than 100 years. The restoration of the farm is part of a phased plan to fully restore the 250 historic acres, developed fully in the 2015 award-winning Strategic Landscape Design Plan (SLDP) completed by TOP and the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation.

Funds from this grant will support the removal of the temporary parking lot currently on the site of the Historic Kitchen Garden to construct a new parking lot and entry/exit road adjacent to the farm area. It will also incorporate landscape restoration to screen the new parking lot from both the farm complex and the restored historic view corridor from the top of Crown Hill, restored in 2013. In addition, the project will include the creation of an accessible pedestrian connection from the new parking lot to the restored Kitchen Garden.

Olana is a powerful magnet for the region, attracting over 170,000 visitors annually, providing a broad range of educational opportunities for local residents, and attracting individuals and businesses for whom arts, culture, and recreation are key quality of life factors.

For more information about all that is currently happening at Olana please visit www.olana.org.

About Olana and The Olana Partnership: Olana is the greatest masterpiece of Frederic Edwin Church (1826-1900), the preeminent American artist of the mid-19thC and the most important artist's home, studio and designed landscape in the United States. Church designed Olana as a holistic environment integrating his advanced ideas about art, architecture, landscape design, and environmental conservation. Olana's 250-acre artist-designed landscape with a Persian-inspired house at its summit embraces unrivaled panoramic views of the Hudson Valley and Catskill Mountains and, today, welcomes more than 170,000 visitors annually.

Olana State Historic Site, a historic site administered by the New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation, Taconic Region, is a designated National Historic Landmark and one of the most visited sites in the state. The Olana Partnership, a private not-for-profit education corporation, works cooperatively with New York State to support the restoration, conservation, and interpretation of Olana State Historic Site. To learn more about Olana and The Olana Partnership, please visit www.olana.org

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