



AMERICAN ART FOR THE PUBLIC GOOD: CASE STUDIES FROM A CAREER IN ART HISTORY

Presented by Joni Kinsey Ph.D



The idea of “American Art for the Public Good” has been at the core of my research and teaching for forty years. Even as I have sometimes dealt with enormous paintings owned by elites, I have consistently been drawn to topics that have relevance or meanings for everyday folks, or that resulted from public funding of art for the people. This illustrated lecture will offer a brief overview of some of these--nineteenth century federal survey work that resulted in the first portrayals of land that became national parks, images of the American prairie, popular print culture, and Regionalism and the New Deal era—before taking one image in depth, exploring it visually and historically to demonstrate how visual imagery can contribute to a shared sense of common cause.

**Thursday, April 16, 2026 at 4:00 pm
Kollros Auditorium
101 Biology Building East**

If unable to attend in person, join us on Zoom at <https://uiowa.zoom.us/j/98036590065>

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