



FREE *Artful Connections* Videoconference

# Young America

Grades 4+

## OVERVIEW

The transition from colonial rule to national independence was a pivotal time in American history. Students will explore colonial and early federal art that tells the story of growing national ambitions, territorial expansion, and the beginning of industry.

After participation in this videoconference, your students will be better able to:

- Understand the historical context of the creation of America as a new nation, as well as the resulting political infrastructure and economic development;
- Understand the effects that changing government had on those living in the colonies and the new nation during the 1700s and 1800s;
- Reflect upon and assess artworks portraying growing national ambitions, territorial expansion, and the beginning of industry;
- Use visual vocabulary to articulate observations and interpretations of artworks.

## HIGHLIGHTED STANDARDS

### Historical Thinking

K-12.3: Analyze and interpret multiple perspectives in history to compare and contrast differing sets of ideas, values, personalities, behaviors, and institutions, and to challenge arguments of historical inevitability

K-12.4: Obtain and interrogate historical data from a variety of sources, including library and museum collections, in order to formulate historical questions from encounters with art and other records from the past

### US History

K-4.1: Living and Working Together in Families and Communities, Now and Long Ago

K-4.3: The History of the United States: Democratic Principles and Values and the Peoples from Many Cultures Who Contributed to Its Cultural, Economic, and Political Heritage

5-12, Era 2: Colonization and Settlement (1585-1763)

5-12, Era 3: Revolution and the New Nation (1754-1820s)

### Civics

K-4.2: Basic Values and Principles of American Democracy

5-12.2: Foundations of the American Political System

## KEY CONCEPTS

American Revolution, colonist, Constitution of the United States, Federalist Papers, independence, Industrial Revolution, liberty, minuteman, nation, soliloquy

To request this FREE program, visit [CILC.org](http://CILC.org) or contact Rebecca Fulcher at [FulcherR@si.edu](mailto:FulcherR@si.edu). More information and a full list of standards are at [AmericanArt.si.edu/education/k-12/videoconferences](http://AmericanArt.si.edu/education/k-12/videoconferences).

## RELATED ARTWORKS

Many artworks in our collection support this videoconference. A representative sample appears below. Please note that images used during your videoconference may vary.



John Valentine Haidt, [\*Young Moravian Girl\*](#) [Detail], ca. 1755-1760, oil on canvas, 30 3/8 x 25 1/4 in., Gift of the American Art Forum, 1987.32.



John Singleton Copley, [\*Mrs. George Watson\*](#) [Detail], 1765, oil on canvas, 49 7/8 x 40 in., Partial gift of Henderson Inches, Jr., in honor of his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Inches, and museum purchase made possible in part by Mr. and Mrs. R. Crosby Kemper through the Crosby Kemper Foundation; the American Art Forum; and the Luisita L. and Franz H. Denghausen Endowment, 1991.189.



Ferdinand Pettrich, [\*Washington Resigning His Commission\*](#) [Detail], ca. 1841, painted plaster, 86 x 48 1/2 x 36 3/8 in., Gift of the artist, XX35.



Alvan Fisher, [\*The Great Horseshoe Fall, Niagara\*](#), 1820, oil on canvas, 34 3/8 x 48 in., Museum purchase, 1966.82.1.

## ADDITIONAL ARTWORKS

Charles Willson Peale, [\*Mrs. James Smith and Grandson\*](#), 1776, oil on canvas, 36 3/8 x 29 1/4 in., Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Wilson Levering Smith, Jr., and museum purchase, 1980.93.

Daniel Chester French, [\*Concord Minute Man of 1775\*](#), 1889, cast 1917, bronze, 32 1/4 x 17 1/8 x 18 3/8 in., Museum purchase, 1991.193.

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