

# The Parkville Frame Gallery

## Newsletter

**2022 Newsletter #22-6** (Nov/Dec)

### **Subject: Art Quiz**

The holidays are coming. What a great opportunity to use art to showcase your residence, and to show others your sophisticated-side. Art well-chosen, well-framed, and appropriately displayed can also serve as a basis for interesting conversation. “But”, you say, “I don’t know as much about art as I would like”. Our **Art Advisor** can give you many ideas and resources to expand your knowledge. The Parkville Frame Gallery can provide the art, or perhaps you already have your own art. Because we are all at different levels of understanding when it comes to art, let’s begin to build by taking a quiz. Establish a baseline, so to speak. Visit this website and take the quiz:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PomCgicUH60>

Our bet is that some of the art featured in the quiz will be of interest to you. Select one painting. You can build on that. For example, consider the very popular painting *Washington crossing the Delaware*, painted by Emanuel Leutze.



**Emanuel Gottlieb Leutze** was a German-American history painter who was best known for his 1850 painting *Washington Crossing the Delaware*.

He was born in Germany on May 24, 1816.

He was brought to the United States as a child in 1825. His parents settled first in Fredericksburg, Virginia, and then in Philadelphia.

In 1843 Leutze visited Venice and Rome, making studies of works by Titian and Michelangelo.

In 1845, after his tour in Italy, he returned to Düsseldorf, Germany. There he was a resource for visiting Americans. He found them places to live and work, provided introductions, and gave them emotional and even financial support.

A strong supporter of Europe's Revolutions of 1848, Leutze decided to create a painting that would encourage Europe's liberal reformers, using the American Revolution as an example. With American tourists and art students as models and assistants, Leutze finished the first version of *Washington Crossing the Delaware* in 1850. Although it had some historical inaccuracies, the painting was very popular.



The second version currently in the MET

Just after the first version of the painting was completed it was damaged by a fire in Leutze's studio. It was subsequently restored, and was acquired by the Kunsthalle Bremen (an art museum that displays temporary art exhibitions) in Bremen, Germany.

On September 5, 1942, during World War II, the first version of the painting was accidentally completely destroyed in a bombing raid.

A second painting, a full-size replica (12 by 21 feet) of the first was ordered in 1850 by Paris art dealer Adolphe Goupil for his New York branch of Goupil & Cie, a leading art dealership in 19th-century France. The painting was placed on exhibition on Broadway in New York City in October 1851. More than 50,000 people viewed it. They lined up and paid 25 cents each to see it, a considerable sum at that time.

The second painting was originally bought by Marshall O. Roberts in 1851 for \$10,000, an enormous sum at that time--approximately \$350,000 in 2021. After changing ownership several times, the second painting was donated to the Metropolitan Museum of Art (MET) in New York City in 1897 where it still resides today.

A third version of the painting, a smaller version, approximately 3 feet high and nearly 6 feet wide, hung in the White House receiving room from 1979 to 2014. In 2015 it was acquired by Bob Kierlin, founder of the Fastenal Company, a Winona, Minnesota based hardware supply company, and his wife Mary Burrichter, both founders of the Minnesota Marine Art Museum (MMAM), also located in Winona, Minnesota (visit if you can).

The third version was placed on loan as the MMAM's centerpiece of its American Collection. A spokeswoman at MMAM noted, however, that the loan was only for a finite period.

After the third painting had been on display at MMAM for several years, that finite period came to an end in 2022.

The third version of this popular painting was sold in New York City by the Christie's Auction House in May 2022, for \$45 million.



The third version as it was displayed in the Winona, Minnesota Marine Art Museum