Enhance your group’s experience with an exclusive Curator Talk by one of the Delaware Art Museum’s resident experts. Discover compelling stories and fascinating details about artwork and artists in the collection. Curator Talks are held in the Museum’s DuPont Auditorium and last about one hour. Available exclusively to groups and must be scheduled at least four weeks in advance based on the curator’s availability. The price for a Curator Talk is $160.00.
The Pre-Raphaelites: Brothers in Arms
Dr. Margareta S. Frederick, Chief Curator/Curator, Bancroft Collection

In 1848 seven outspoken young men set out to shake up the staid Victorian art world, painting vividly realistic scenes of the social consequences of the modern industrial age. Shunning conventional painting style and technique, they chose instead to mimic the manner of the early Renaissance artists, calling themselves the Pre-Raphaelite Brotherhood. Painting red-haired “stunners” (female models) in the newly available garish paint colors, their work fairly leapt off the walls of the conservative Royal Academy. Learn about the eccentric lives and avant-garde art of this unique group of painters.

John Sloan and His Circle: The Inside Dirt on the Ashcan School
Dr. Heather Campbell Coyle, Curator of American Art

John Sloan and his friends—including Robert Henri, William Glackens, Everett Shinn, and George Luks—upset the genteel factions of the early 20th-century art establishment with their depictions of urban life, earning themselves the derisive nickname of the “Ashcan School.” Ultimately, Sloan’s paintings and etchings of New York City came to define the city in the popular imagination. The Delaware Art Museum owns an unparalleled collection of art by Sloan and his circle thanks to the generosity of Helen Farr Sloan, the artist’s second wife. Discover the stories behind these revolutionary painters of the urban scene.

Minimalism to the Max: Contemporary American Art and The Dorothy and Herbert Vogel Collection
Margaret Winslow, Associate Curator for Contemporary Art

She was a librarian, he a postal clerk, and together Dorothy and Herbert Vogel amassed a renowned collection of Minimal, Conceptual, and Post-Minimal art. In 2008, they gave it away—50 works of art to a museum in each of the 50 states—and the Delaware Art Museum was the recipient of the gift in the First State. Learn about this incredible couple, their avant-garde collection, and the artists associated with this pivotal point in the history of contemporary American art.

Howard Pyle: “A Vivid Flash of Real Truth”
Dr. Mary F. Holahan, Curator of Illustration / Curator of Outlooks Exhibitions

Illustrator Howard Pyle so completely cast himself into his subjects that when he painted scenes of the American Revolution he said he could smell the gunsmoke. Pyle saw and felt what he was illustrating—swashbuckling pirates, heroic soldiers, courtly knights and damsels—with intense and dramatic emotion. This allowed him to create compelling illustrations of adventure, history, legend, and romance.