

America the Beautiful: National Parks & Landmarks by Rail





For 18 weeks in Summer 2026, Cheekwood's iconic Bradford Robertson Color Garden will host America the Beautiful: National Parks & Landmarks by Rail as Cheekwood joins the nation in celebrating America 250.

This will be Cheekwood's BIGGEST train exhibition yet! Designed by Applied Imagination and Cheekwood's designer-in-residence, the same designers who created Cheekwood's beloved year-round TRAINS! exhibition, this summer's show will feature eight trains; eight tracks totaling 860 feet; and many special features, including a waterfall, a 22-foot long model of the Golden Gate Bridge, and The Statue of Liberty, on special loan from the New York Botanical Garden.

With 25 creatively designed models of beloved Tennessee and national landmarks and National Parks, each comprised of organic materials like acorns and tree bark, this Summer Exhibition will be a joyous celebration of American's favorite places throughout our country and a fun way to engage visitors in the country-wide recognition of the 250th Anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence.

The exhibition will open with a reception for Exhibition sponsors, underwriters, and patrons on Friday, May 1, 2026. Cheekwood's year-round TRAINS! exhibition will remain open for guests, providing a double dose of train fun for kids, families, and guests of all ages.



American landmark models featured throughout the dynamic trains displays include:

TENNESSEE LANDMARKS

The Ryman Auditorium—Music City’s “Mother Church” and world-renowned concert hall, \$10,000

Graceland—Elvis Presley’s Tennessee home, \$5,000

Beale Street—Memphis’ famed home of the Blues, \$5,000

Cable Mill —in Great Smoky Mountains National Park, the Mill showcases typical Appalachian-style construction; \$5,000

John Oliver Cabin—Early 1800s home of the first permanent European settlers to this area of the Great Smoky Mountains; \$5,000

Little Greenbriar School —late 1800s school and church in the Great Smoky Mountains; \$5,000

NATIONAL LANDMARKS

Statue of Liberty—on special loan from the New York Botanical Garden, \$10,000

Golden Gate Bridge—large-scale replica of Northern California’s famous bridge, \$10,000

Mount Vernon—George Washington’s Virginia home; \$5,000

Dr. King’s Birth Home—where Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr grew up in Georgia; \$5,000

Grand Canyon Railroad Station—original railroad station that welcomed Grand Canyon visitors during the first half of the 20th century; \$5,000

Iolani Palace—the only royal palace in the US, home of the last Hawaiian royal family; \$5,000

The Alamo—once a mission, the Alamo became a symbol of Texas’ drive for independence; \$5,000

National Park Emblem & Mascot—the American bison, America’s national mammal, and the iconic National Park Service arrowhead; \$5,000

Old Faithful Inn—Yellowstone National Park’s hotel, named for the nearby geyser; \$5,000

John Muir House—John Muir’s writings helped inspire the creation of America’s National Parks; \$5,000

Cliff Dwellings—where many Ancestral Pueblo people lived for centuries among the cliffs in Colorado; \$5,000

Taos Pueblo—first built around 1000 C.E., the oldest continuously inhabited communities in the US; \$5,000

Arctic Brotherhood Hall—built by a fraternal order as a meeting hall in Skagway, Alaska, during the Klondike Gold Rush; \$5,000

Maggie Lena Walker House—home of an African-American woman who fought for Civil Rights in Jim Crow-era Virginia; \$5,000

Bright Angel Lodge—Grand Canyon hotel; \$5,000

Mattes Street Signal Tower—this signal tower controlled busy rail traffic in Scranton, Pennsylvania; \$5,000

Peirce Mill—a Washinton, D.C., mill used for grain production in the 1800s; \$5,000

Theodore Roosevelt Home—served as the “Summer White House” for the 26th President of the United States in New York; \$5,000

Tharp’s Log—an early pioneer shelter carved out of a giant sequoia in California; \$5,000

Earth-Lodge Dwelling—earth lodges American Indian women built for themselves and extended families in North Dakota; \$5,000



Individual and Patron Sponsorship Opportunities for “America the Beautiful”

You are invited to spend the summer with Cheekwood as an America the Beautiful Underwriter or Patron. To support this large-scale, dynamic summer family-focused exhibition, Cheekwood is seeking support from Major and Supporting Underwriters at \$100,000; \$50,000; and \$25,000, and Landmark Model Patrons at \$10,000 and \$5,000, depending on the Landmark. Patrons are also welcome at the \$2,500 level.

Exhibition Underwriting Opportunities

Presenting Underwriter	\$100,000 (one available)
Major Underwriter	\$50,000 (two available)
Supporting Underwriter	\$25,000 (four available)

Benefits for Exhibition Underwriters at the above levels:

- Name identification on select media promotions and signage commiserate with level of gift
- Name in Summer Membership Newsletter
- Name on Exhibition Entrance Signage
- Invitation for 10, 8, or 6, respectively, to the Preview Party on May 1, 2026, including “All Aboard” Kids Pack for children attending
- All benefits of Cheekwood Society at level of gift

Landmark Model Patron Opportunities

Choose the National Landmark that resonates most with you and your family!

The Ryman Auditorium	\$10,000
Statue of Liberty	\$10,000
Golden Gate Bridge	\$10,000
22 other national landmarks	\$5,000 each

Benefits for Model Patrons at the above levels:

- Name in Summer Membership Newsletter
- Name on Model Signage
- Invitation for four to the Preview Party on May 1, 2026, including “All Aboard” Kids Pack for children attending
- All benefits of Cheekwood Society at level of gift

Patron Opportunities

Benefits for Patrons at \$2,500:

- Name in Summer Membership Newsletter
- Invitation for four to the Preview Party on May 1, 2026, including “All Aboard” Kids Pack for children attending
- All benefits of Cheekwood Society at level of gift



Thank you for your consideration!



Cheekwood
ESTATE & GARDENS