

## Free Smartphone Photography Workshop at Morristown w/ Exclusive Photo Tour of the Ford Mansion

Saturday, August 3, 2019 at 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

“The secret to better photographs is not in the camera. It’s in applying the principles of seeing used by artists for centuries,” notes nationally-exhibited photographer and published author Xiomaro.

Morristown National Historical Park is offering a free smartphone photography workshop, The Art of Phoneography, on Saturday, August 3, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. Registration is required by calling Jude Pfister at (973) 539-2016 x204. The workshop – taught by Xiomaro, a nationally-exhibited photographer and published author – includes an exclusive photo-tour of the Ford Mansion, which served as George Washington’s headquarters.

“Smartphones have millions of times more memory than the mere 66 kilobytes on the Lunar Module, which landed people on the moon,” explains Xiomaro. “The cameras have gotten so easy to use that almost 100 million photos are posted to Instagram alone – every day.” But ease of use alone does not make for a good photograph. “The secret to better photographs is not in the camera. It’s in applying the principles of seeing used by artists for centuries,” noted Xiomaro. For that reason, point-and-shoot cameras and professional DSLRs are also welcome to the workshop.

Xiomaro explained that seeing and creating a photograph is different than looking and taking a snapshot as many people do. His workshop will introduce five key artistic principles demonstrated with slides of photographs and paintings. He and the group will walk the park grounds and George Washington’s headquarters to create unique images using workshop techniques.

Xiomaro’s aim is to make photography accessible to more people by minimizing the technical know-how that is often a barrier. “I’ve seen expensive DSLRs set on automatic because their complexity is overwhelming.” He believes that, through the workshop, some will become better prepared to one day handle f-stops, ISOs, and other technical settings of a dedicated camera.

Xiomaro (pronounced “SEE-oh-MAH-ro”) is an internationally recognized artist and speaker whose photography has been covered by The New York Times, CBS Eyewitness News, Star Ledger, and News 12. His work has been exhibited at Harvard University, Fraunces Tavern Museum, as well as galleries, and public spaces.

For Xiomaro, Morristown National Historical Park is an ideal place for such a workshop, which is the first of its kind at the park. He was commissioned to create an artistic photographic collection of the Ford Mansion and selections are being published as a booklet by the park. He is also the author of Weir Farm National Historic Site (Arcadia Publishing) with a foreword written by Senator Joe Lieberman. The historic site is in Connecticut and features his photography, which Xiomaro explains was created using the same principles he teaches at the workshop.

The Art of Phoneography workshop will be held at Morristown National Historical Park, 30 Washington Place, Morristown, New Jersey 07960 on Saturday, August 3, 10:00 am to 2:00 pm. The workshop is free of charge, but space is limited and registration is required by calling Jude Pfister at (973) 539-2016 x204. Participants need only bring their fully-charged smartphone (any brand is fine) or camera with plenty of available storage space for the new photos that will be created. A portable USB phone charger or spare battery is helpful. Comfortable walking shoes are suggested along with some snacks. For more information visit [www.xiomaro.com](http://www.xiomaro.com).

For more information about Morristown NHP, please visit our website at [www.nps.gov/morr](http://www.nps.gov/morr).

You can also check out our Museum Blog at <http://morristownnhpmuseum.blogspot.com/>.