

News Release

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COLUMBIA THREADNEEDLE SUPPORTS NATIONAL GALLERY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENTS' EXHIBITION FOR EIGHTH CONSECUTIVE YEAR

- ***Now open until Sunday, 31 August 2025***
- ***Record beating cohort since programme launch, with over 83,000 children taking part***

LONDON, 12 JUNE 2025: Columbia Threadneedle Investments is proud to sponsor for the eighth consecutive year the National Gallery's annual *Take One Picture* learning programme and exhibition, opening today and continuing throughout August.

Take One Picture is the National Gallery's countrywide scheme for primary schools which uses one painting from the Gallery's collection to inspire cross-curricular work in primary classrooms. Each year the *Take One Picture* programme invites pupils to respond creatively to its themes, putting art at the centre of children's learning and inspiring creativity, curiosity and a lifelong connection with artist's work. This year the selected work is *The Courtyard of a House in Delft* (1658) by Pieter de Hooch, as the source of inspiration.

This year's *Take One Picture* exhibition is displayed across three sites in and around the National Gallery. Artwork displays can be found at St James's Market Pavilion and the Gallery's Roden Centre for Creative Learning, with visitors also able to step into a digital Augmented Reality (AR) trail on Jubilee Walk. The AR trail enables the public to see exhibition artwork virtually on the pavements around the National Gallery in central London. This will help new audiences connect with the exhibition in digital, innovative ways, making it more accessible for those who may not often engage with the arts.

This year, over 83,000 children from 380 schools took part in the *Take One Picture* learning programme – the biggest ever cohort since the programme launched.

The *Take One Picture* programme and exhibition is also supported by Columbia Threadneedle's charitable entity, Columbia Threadneedle Foundation, which aims to deliver long term positive social change through programmes that use art, education and sport.

Laura Cook, Chair of Columbia Threadneedle Foundation said: "*Take One Picture* helps children to develop their analytical skills through the interpretation of an artwork, skills they will carry forward through their education and future life. The programme also celebrates children's artistic talents and fosters a sense of belonging in the Gallery.

"We are also very pleased to support the Gallery's innovative integration of Augmented Reality (AR) in the exhibition which will help even more people connect with the programme and improve accessibility for children who may not otherwise engage with the arts.

Our continued support for *Take One Picture* over the past eight years reflects the positive impact this national programme delivers."

Karen Eslea, Head of Learning and National Programmes at the National Gallery, said "After thirty years of *Take One Picture* bringing the perspectives of children to some of the Gallery's most beloved paintings, we are delighted to see ever new ways of expressing their creativity – and how we can match that in our ways of displaying their work for audiences."

For more information on *Take One Picture*, please visit: <https://www.nationalgallery.org.uk/take-one-picture>

**** IMAGE FILE ATTACHED SEPERATELY ****

Credit line: 'The Courtyard of a House in Delft' by Pieter de Hooch (1658), The National Gallery, London.

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About Columbia Threadneedle Investments

Columbia Threadneedle Investments is a leading global asset manager, entrusted with £481bn¹ on behalf of individual, institutional and corporate clients around the world.

We have approximately 2,300 people including approximately 550 investment professionals based in North America, Europe and Asia². We offer our clients a wide range of strategies across equities, fixed income and alternatives, as well as specialist responsible investment capabilities and a comprehensive suite of solutions.

¹ Source: Ameriprise Financial Q1 2025 earnings release

² As at 31 March 2025, Columbia Threadneedle Investments

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About Columbia Threadneedle Foundation

The Columbia Threadneedle Foundation* works with long-term charity partners to improve individual people's lives and also drive fundamental social change. Through the power of art, sport and education as catalyst for change, we seek to address critical social issues – inclusion, opportunity, employment, empowerment and mental health.

About the National Gallery

The National Gallery is one of the greatest art galleries in the world. Founded by Parliament in 1824, the Gallery houses the nation's collection of paintings in the Western European tradition from the late 13th to the early 20th century. The collection includes works by Bellini, Cezanne, Degas, Leonardo, Monet, Raphael, Rembrandt, Renoir, Rubens, Titian, Turner, Van Dyck, Van Gogh and Velázquez. The Gallery's key objectives are to enhance the collection, care for the collection and provide the best possible access to visitors. Admission free. More at nationalgallery.org.uk

On 10 May 2024 the National Gallery was 200 years old, and we started our Bicentenary celebration, a year-long festival of art, creativity and imagination, marking two centuries of bringing people and paintings together.

About Take One Picture

Launched in 1995, *Take One Picture* is the National Gallery's countrywide scheme for primary schools. Each year the Gallery focuses on one painting from the collection to inspire cross-curricular work in primary classrooms. The Gallery offers one-day training sessions which give teachers the opportunity to learn about the focus picture and explore the pedagogy and practice of using paintings as a rich resource for child-led, investigative learning. Each year a selection of work produced by schools based on the painting is shown at the National Gallery and published on the website. In order to be considered for the display, schools submit examples of how a whole class or school has used the picture to inspire projects that are child-led and cross-curricular, and through which children have learned a new process and involved people or places in the local community.

Further information about the programme, related CPD courses for teachers, and the annual *Take One Picture* exhibition at the National Gallery can be found at nationalgallery.org.uk/take-one-picture

About Pieter de Hooch (1629 - after 1684)

Pieter de Hooch was a Dutch Golden Age genre painter. A contemporary of Jan Vermeer, de Hooch similarly explored themes of domestic life and the use of light in his paintings. The son of a bricklayer, Pieter de Hooch was born in Rotterdam. According to his early biographer Arnold Houbraken, he was trained by Nicolaes Berchem, one of the leading Dutch painters of Italianate landscapes active in Haarlem. Pieter de Hooch is best known for his pictures of the domestic life of women and children, such as ['The Courtyard of a House in](#)

[Delft](#) in the National Gallery's collection. His later paintings record fashionable life in the city of Amsterdam, using a darker and richer range of colours.

Important information

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