Selected Public Domain Image Sources

We are constantly bombarded with visual images—so it can be easy to forget that many images are protected from re-use by copyright laws. We take a risk if we use another person’s artwork/photograph without their permission. Stakes are especially high if we use that image in a publication that we get paid for. "Fair Use" rules usually allow for personal or educational use of others’ images---but to be on the safe side, when looking for images to re-purpose, it’s best to start looking for quality images in the public domain, which can even be altered or used commercially. Here are a few sources to check out!

www.pdclipart.org

Some sites are very graphic in nature, some are photographic, and some feature original artwork.
For more information or other reference and collection development assistance, call the Reference & Information Desk at Adriance Memorial Library at (845) 485-3445 x 3702 or (800) 804-0092 x 3702.
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Some Art Museums have also made thousands of images of their works available in the public domain, like the Art Institute Chicago and the Open Access Artwork at the Metropolitan Museum of Art!

For Historic Images, try http://ushistoryimages.com/ or from the Library of Congress and the American Memory project http://memory.loc.gov/ammem/browse/updatedList.html (not all public domain!)