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For more information, contact:

Dr. V. Scott Dimond, Curator for Visual Arts

(207) 504-7651

Travis Mearns, Public Relations Coordinator

(724) 238-6015

SAMA-JOHNSTOWN TO HOST ALLIED ARTISTS EXHIBITION

Johnstown – The Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art is pleased to announce the opening of its latest exhibition, *Allied Artists of Johnstown 82nd Annual Juried Art Exhibition*. The exhibition opens August 29 and will remain on view through December 12.

The Allied Artists exhibition annually presents compelling and inspiring artwork created by many of the area's most talented artists. This year's installment features forty-seven works by twenty-eight artists. The exhibition also will feature two "In Memoriam" works by Rich Newill and Jean O'Malley, Allied Artists members who recently passed away.

Serving as juror was Mary Weidner, retired art professor at Carnegie Mellon University. She has BFA and MFA degrees from Washington University in St. Louis and has shown her paintings in galleries in New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, Washington, Hungary, Italy, Japan and Poland. Weidner lectures widely and has received grants from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts and the Heinz Foundation.

SAMA-Johnstown will celebrate the exhibition's opening with a reception on Saturday, September 6 from 6 to 8 p.m. The event is open to the public free of charge.

Begun in the mid-1920s when Margery Coleman Harris and seven of her friends formed an art group to share their interest in painting, the Allied Artists of Johnstown was formally incorporated in 1932. The organization has grown from its original membership of eight to more than 100 artists. The group produces an average of four exhibitions annually, sponsors scholarships for graduating high school seniors pursuing careers in the arts, and, through its Friends of Art Fund, donates art work to local public institutions.

The Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art at Johnstown is located in the Pasquerilla Performing Arts Center on the campus of the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown. Hours of operation are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. The Museum is a handicapped-accessible facility and is open to the public free of charge. For more information, please call the Museum at (814) 269-7234 or visit www.sama-art.org.