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## ANTIQUÉ DOLLS EXHIBITION RETURNS TO SAMA-ALTOONA

Altoona – The Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art at Altoona is pleased to announce the return of its popular *Antique Dolls* exhibition. This year's installment will feature a collection of 50 European porcelain dolls from the early 1800s and 1900s. *Antique Dolls: A Holiday Celebration* opens in the Museum's George A. and Herbert L. Wolf Gallery on November 18 and will remain on view through January 7.

Over the years, the dolls exhibition has become a favorite holiday event within the Altoona community. This year's installment features the finest in German porcelain bisque dolls, many of which were produced by the Kestner Doll Company. The dolls are favorites with collectors due to their appealing faces and fine quality. Also featured will be dolls by Max and Heinrich Handwerck, C. M. Bergmann, and Armand Marseille, as well as Sasha dolls made in England and designed by Sasha Morganthaler.

"This exhibition has proven to be one of the community's favorites," said SAMA-Altoona Coordinator, Barbara Hollander. "Long before Thanksgiving, our patrons begin asking us about the dolls exhibition. I cannot believe how many regional doll collectors and connoisseurs there are who anxiously await this show. I'm encouraged by the excitement and support, and believe this exhibition will appeal to all ages."

In celebration of the exhibition, the Museum will be hosting its annual *Pizza and Parade* party. Beginning at 5:30 p.m. on December 1, the event celebrates the Museum's annual *Antique Dolls* exhibition. Guests can enjoy pizza, view the dolls on display, and afterward watch Altoona's annual *The Spirit of Christmas* parade at 6 p.m., followed by fireworks and the Christmas tree lighting at Heritage Plaza. Cost is \$5 for children and \$10 for adults. Please call the Museum at (814) 946-4464 for reservations or more information.

The Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art at Altoona is located in the Brett Building at 1210 Eleventh Avenue. Hours of operation are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 1 to 5 p.m. Saturdays. The Museum is a handicapped-accessible facility and is open to the public free of charge. For more information, call the Museum or visit [www.sama-art.org](http://www.sama-art.org).

The Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art receives state arts funding support through a grant from the Pennsylvania Council for the Arts, a state agency funded by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.