

September 8, 2016

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SAMA-LIGONIER VALLEY TO OFFER CHINESE BRUSH PAINTING CLASS

Ligonier – The Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art at Ligonier Valley will host a series of Chinese brush painting classes in October. The program will consist of four classes and will be led by artist Susan Novak. The classes are scheduled for 2 to 4 p.m. October 11 through 14.

Chinese brush painting is both a meditative practice and traditional art form. Over the course of four classes, students will explore the “4 Treasures” (bamboo brush, ink stone, ink stick, rice paper) as they learn traditional painting techniques to create the “4 Gentlemen” (bamboo, plum blossom, orchid and mum). Students will learn to grind their own ink, paint Chinese characters and embellish them into colorful decorative flags, and then combine Sumi-e ink and watercolor in their own scroll painting or silk scarf design.

Novak has a diverse background of education and experience, having taught in alternative educational settings as well as health-related fields. She holds a master’s degree in counseling from Indiana University of Pennsylvania and is also a board-certified art therapist. A directory artist with SAMA and the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, Novak has taught in various community and school settings. Traditional Chinese brush painting and silk painting are among her specialties.

The classes will be taught in a relaxed atmosphere and are designed for beginners and intermediates. Cost is \$35 per person, which covers all four classes. Materials will be provided. Reservations are required by October 10 by calling the Museum at (724) 238-6015.

Taught by the Museum’s roster of professional teaching artists, SAMA’s art classes are designed to introduce students to a wide variety of artistic techniques and media. Class size is limited to provide maximum instructor interaction for each student.

The Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art at Ligonier Valley is located at One Boucher Lane and Route 711 South in Ligonier. Hours of operation are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 1 to 5 p.m. weekends. The Museum is a handicapped-accessible facility and is open to the public free of charge. For more information, contact the Museum or visit www.sama-art.org.