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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **ANNUAL ART IN COMMON EXHIBITION RETURNS TO SAMA-ALTOONA**

Altoona – The Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art at Altoona is pleased to announce the return of the annual juried exhibition, *Artists in Our Midst*. The exhibition, on view September 14 through January 19, will once again highlight local and regional artists who are members of Art in Common, an arts organization based in Central Pennsylvania.

The exhibition will be in the Museum’s Shirley and Fred A. Pechter Gallery. With 77 works created by 27 artists, *Artists in Our Midst* showcases a wide variety of media, including photography, watercolor, wood, acrylic, oil, clay, fiber arts, and mixed media, among others.

“SAMA-Altoona is pleased to welcome back our regional artists,” said SAMA-Altoona Coordinator, Barbara Hollander. “This exhibition is eagerly anticipated by our patrons and artists. For anyone looking for exciting new works of art to purchase, this exhibition is for you. It features a great selection of eclectic works, and the very best in local and regional art.”

Serving as exhibition juror is Melissa Kuntz, Associate Professor of Art and Art Department Chair at Clarion University. Kuntz holds an M.F.A and M.A. from SUNY-Purchase and a B.F.A from Nova Scotia College of Art and Design. She has written reviews for *Art in America* and the *Pittsburgh City Paper* while also maintaining a studio practice.

The Museum will celebrate the exhibition at a *Blue Monday* program on October 8. The event begins at 6 p.m. and features a light dinner and libations set to the music of Stormy. Cost is \$20 per person or \$10 for Art in Common members. For reservations, call the Museum at (814) 946-4464.

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. Saturday. The Museum is a handicapped-accessible facility and is open to the public free of charge. Parking is available in the garage across the street or in metered spots in the lot at the rear of the building. 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 on the Arts, a state agency funded by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.