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For more information, contact:

Barbara Hollander, SAMA-Altoona Coordinator
(814) 946-4464

Travis Mearns, Public Relations Coordinator
(724) 238-6015

**SAMA-ALTOONA TO KICK OFF FIRST *BLUE MONDAY* OF 2013 IN
FEBRUARY**

Altoona – The Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art at Altoona will kick off its 2013 *Blue Monday* season on February 11. The program, which begins at 6 p.m., will feature music by Mt. City Grass and a tour of the Museum's latest exhibition, *Julie Bernstein Engelmann: Being Spirit*. Cost is \$20 per person. Please call the Museum at (814) 946-4464 for reservations.

Over the years, *Blue Monday* has developed a strong following throughout the Blair County region. The event combines the best of the region's musical, culinary and fine arts in one setting. Each program includes a light supper and libations while guests listen to some of the area's best musical talent. Additionally, each program highlights the Museum's exhibitions.

Mt. City Grass is a traditional bluegrass group based out of Central Pennsylvania. The group consists of Denny Cerully on vocals and guitar, Katie Cerully on bass and vocals, Ed Decker on guitar and vocals, Dean Berkheimer on banjo, Tom McCarty on mandolin, and Jason Dodson on fiddle.

During the event, guests will have the opportunity to view the exhibition, *Julie Bernstein Engelmann: Being Spirit*. On view through April 20, the exhibition features approximately thirty-five of the artist's brilliantly colored abstract canvases. Engelmann's dramatic paintings are renowned for their lush color and texture and have won many Best of Show awards throughout western Pennsylvania. The artist will be in attendance at *Blue Monday*.

The Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art at Altoona is located in the Brett Building at 1210 Eleventh Avenue. The Museum is a handicapped-accessible facility and is open to the public free of charge. Hours of operation are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 1 to 5 p.m. Saturdays. Parking is available in the garage across the street or in the lot at the rear of the building. For more information, please call the Museum or visit www.sama-art.org.

This project was made possible through the AIE Partnership of the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, a state agency. State government funding for the arts depends upon an annual appropriation by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and support from the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency. The PCA Arts-in-Education Partner in this region is the Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art.