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## **SAMA-ALTOONA TO KICK OFF 2012 *BLUE MONDAY* SEASON IN MAY**

Altoona – The Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art at Altoona will kick off its 2012 *Blue Monday* season on May 14. The program, which begins at 6 p.m., will feature music by Stormy and a tour of the Museum's latest exhibitions, *Daniel Burke: Repurposed* and *Death to Life: The Paintings of Jacob D. Metzger*. 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 with a gallery tour or an artist presentation.

Stormy plays classic melodic rock and pop music from the '60s and '70s, including music by The Beatles, America, and Traffic. The band consists of Charlie Leiden on keyboard; Luke Leiden on percussion and vocals; Mark Montrella on lead vocals and harmonica; and Peter Wolf on guitar, vocals and percussion.

During the event, guests will have the opportunity to view the exhibitions, *Daniel Burke: Repurposed* and *Death to Life: The Paintings of Jacob D. Metzger*. On view through September 8, *Repurposed* features nearly 40 works including paintings, drawings and large-scale installation pieces by Burke, Professor of Art and Chair of the Art Department at Mercyhurst College in Erie. His work displays a meticulous attention to detail while also being renowned for its introspective and diverse quality. *Death to Life*, on view through May 26, features more than thirty works by Metzger, a former Hollidaysburg resident. Metzger offers a unique interpretation of death by juxtaposing the skull with vibrant color, animated texture, and bold line. Both artists will be in attendance at *Blue Monday*.

Jim Cayce and Michael M. Strueber will serve as celebrity bartenders at *Blue Monday*. The event is underwritten by Nancy Sheetz, with additional sponsorship by Michael and Margaret Strueber.

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](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.