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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information, contact:

Sommer Toffle, SAMA-Ligonier Valley Coordinator
(724) 238-6015

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

**PAPERWEIGHT HISTORIAN RETURNS TO LIGONIER MUSEUM FOR
LUNCH A L'ART PRESENTATION**

Ligonier – The Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art at Ligonier Valley will host a Lunch a l'Art with journalist and paperweight historian Michael Calleri on Thursday, October 16. The program, which begins at noon, includes lunch and a presentation by the speaker. Cost is \$15 or \$12 for SAMA members. Reservations are required by October 10 and can be made by calling the Museum at (724) 238-6015. Calleri returns to the Museum after his lecture in 2013 was received by a standing-room-only crowd.

Calleri, of Buffalo, New York, is a movie reviewer and entertainment reporter for the daily Niagara Gazette. He also writes for WNYMedia.net, the Buffalo Alternative Press, the national website, Indiewire.com, and is the movie critic for WECK Radio in Buffalo. Calleri will discuss the history of fine art glass paperweights and how they are made, and will put into historical perspective SAMA's Walter Carlyle Shaw Collection of nearly 200 paperweights. The collection, donated by Elizabeth Shaw Gamble in 1992 in memory of her father, is on permanent display at the Museum. Calleri encourages all guests attending the luncheon to bring with them one paperweight that they would like to have identified and learn its history.

Prior to the lunch program will be a meeting of the SAMA Auxiliary at 11 a.m. The Auxiliary is always welcoming new members. If you are interested in joining the Auxiliary, please come to the meeting or call the Museum for further information.

Lunch a l'Art programs are offered to encourage a greater understanding of various art forms and movements, as well as foster a deeper appreciation for the exhibitions presented by the Museum.

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, call the Museum or visit www.sama-art.org.