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### **LOCAL PHOTOGRAPHER TO SPEAK AT LUNCH A L'ART PROGRAM**

Altoona – The Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art at Altoona will host a Lunch a l'Art program with artist Christian James on Wednesday, June 19. The program, which begins at noon, includes lunch and a presentation by the artist. Cost is \$13 per person or \$12 for SAMA members. Reservations are required by calling (814) 946-4464.

The program coincides with the Museum's current exhibition, *Journey of a Lifetime: The Photography of Christian James*. A resident of Altoona, James is a prolific and successful photographer who has traveled 250,000 miles over the last five years to capture the most picturesque locations throughout the United States and Canada. He is a self-taught photographer who has risen to the top of his profession, as evidenced by receiving the award of Master Photographer from Professional Photographers of North America. James' work is available in 160 galleries throughout the U.S. and Japan, and last year sold 3,000 prints and 12,000 books. His photographs are in the collections of several presidents, celebrities and billionaires. *Journey of a Lifetime* will remain on view through September 7.

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

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).