

August 13, 2014

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**SAMA-LORETTO TO HOST *CONVERSATIONS WITH THE CURATOR* IN  
SEPTEMBER**

Loretto – The Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art at Loretto’s curatorial lecture series, *Conversations with the Curator: A Lecture-and-Lunch Series for Art Lovers and Collectors*, will resume on Thursday, September 18. The program will begin at 12 p.m. and includes a presentation by SAMA Curator for Visual Arts, Dr. Scott Dimond, as well as a box lunch. An informal Q&A period will follow.

The September program is titled “Hard Times and Fine Art: American Art in the 1930s.” The hard years of the Great Depression ushered in an era of back-to-basics patriotism that celebrated the virtues and values of the American people. Artists and patrons joined in this celebration and sought ways not only to represent the many faces of America, but to put fine art within the reach of all citizens. In this talk, Dimond will review this exceptional period using art objects drawn from the SAMA collection together with period ephemera and images.

“These lectures are intended to be informative, yet informal and fun,” said Dimond. “There will be plenty of things to look at, as well as some ‘show-and-tell’ and opportunities for conversation. As I envision it, they will be a pleasant way to get a little art history under your belt, whether you are an artist, a collector, a teacher, or anyone who has an appreciation for American visual culture.”

Cost for *Conversations with the Curator* is \$25 per program, which includes lunch. Please R.S.V.P. to (814) 472-3920 by September 15. The next program is scheduled for December 4.

The Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art at Loretto is located on the campus of Saint Francis University. Hours of operation are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 1 to 5 p.m. Saturday. The Museum is open to the public free of charge. For more information, call the Museum or visit [www.sama-art.org](http://www.sama-art.org).