

February 7, 2014

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information, contact:

Dr. V. Scott Dimond, Curator for Visual Arts

(207) 504-7651

Travis Mearns, Public Relations Coordinator

(724) 238-6015

CURATORIAL LECTURE SERIES TO RESUME IN MARCH

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, March 13. The program will begin at 12:15 p.m. and includes a 45-minute talk by SAMA Curator for Visual Arts, Dr. Scott Dimond, as well as a box lunch. An informal Q&A period will follow.

The March program is titled “Likenesses and Loved Ones: Silhouettes, Miniature Portraits, and Cased Photographs.” Among the most endearing of antiques are those tiny portraits that were meant to be held close to the eye and heart. Cut from paper, painted in watercolor on ivory, or photographed onto plates of silver, glass, or tin, these small likenesses were an everyday reminder of loved ones and shared intimacy. Using slides as well as actual objects, Dr. Dimond will discuss the art and social significance of these miniatures as well as tips for collecting and preserving them.

“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* program is \$25 per lecture, which includes lunch. Please R.S.V.P. to (814) 472-3920 by March 10. Following programs will be held June 12, September 18 and 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.