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***CONVERSATIONS WITH THE CURATOR SERIES TO CONTINUE  
IN SEPTEMBER***

Loretto – The Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art at Loretto’s *Conversations with the Curator* lecture-and-lunch series will continue on Thursday, September 17. 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 “The Very Picture of Health: Popular Art and Popular Medicine during the Golden Age of Quackery.” In the decades following the end of the Civil War, Americans’ preoccupation with health and well-being approached craze proportions. To address peoples’ concerns, a small army of entrepreneurs, well-meaning physicians, and outright con artists devised a host of dubious remedies for virtually every ill under the sun. Politely referred to as “patent medicine” or more commonly as “snake oil,” these questionable cures enjoyed great success thanks to clever and appealing advertising. In this talk, Dr. Dimond will survey the wacky world of the quack doctor, his medicines, and the artful (pun intended) methods by which he marketed 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* is \$25 per program, which includes lunch. Please R.S.V.P. to (814) 472-3920 by September 14. The next *Conversations with the Curator* program will be held December 3.

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).