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***CONVERSATIONS WITH THE CURATOR SERIES TO EXAMINE GOLDEN
AGE OF COMIC BOOKS***

Loretto – The Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art at Loretto’s *Conversations with the Curator* lecture-and-lunch series will continue on Thursday, September 15. 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 “Ten-Cent Treasures: The Golden Age of American Comic Books.” Comic books are among the most quintessentially American forms of popular art. Originating in the “funny papers” of the early twentieth century, comic books came into their own during the Great Depression and the war years that followed. Heroes and villains of every stripe roamed through their pages, and from the streets of Gotham City to outer space, their adventures captivated children and adults alike. In this talk, Dr. Dimond will delve into the origins of the American comic book and explore the many colorful forms it took during the so-called Golden Age of comics, from the late 1930s to the repressions of the McCarthy era in the early 1950s.

“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 12. The next *Conversations with the Curator* program will be held December 8.

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.