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SAMA-ALTOONA TO HOST 10TH ANNUAL FASHION SHOW FUNDRAISER IN NOVEMBER

Altoona – The Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art has celebrated a number of milestones in recent years. This fall, the Museum will realize another important anniversary when SAMA-Altoona hosts its tenth annual fashion show fundraiser on November 2.

Over the years, *The Art of Wine and Fashion* has become one of the Altoona area's most anticipated and sophisticated annual events. The fundraiser combines the excitement of big city clubbing with a night of high fashion and fine dining. Guests at this year's event will find the "Back in Black" theme to provide the perfect backdrop. Organizers are planning for a sleek and sexy approach that will be reflected in the décor, drinks, and style show. Chairing the event is Claudia Montero Pequignot of Hollidaysburg, with Jim Cayce of Hollidaysburg serving as co-chair.

The Art of Wine and Fashion begins at 6:30 p.m. at the Altoona Museum with a champagne reception and hors d'oeuvres. Later, the party moves next door to The Columns for a buffet dinner by Raphael's, dessert, dancing, and a silent auction featuring one-of-a-kind purses decorated and painted by Nancy Sheetz. After dinner, las trés vintage wearables will produce a style show featuring an assortment of elegant ensembles. The event also will feature a raffle for an opportunity to win an original botanical painting by Michael M. Strueber and a raku-fired ceramic sculpture by Helen Gorsuch.

"I am excited for this year's event," said SAMA-Altoona Coordinator, Barbara Hollander. "The 'Back in Black' theme is just perfect. We will have a cutting-edge crowd and I can't wait to see what little black dresses they will pull out of their closets. Men will be encouraged to dress to the theme as well. Please come out and support the arts and your local museum."

Tickets are available for \$75 per person. Reservations are required by October 29 and can be made by calling the Altoona Museum at (814) 946-4464. Valet parking will be available.

Funds raised will help support the Altoona Museum and keep its doors open to the public free of charge. The Museum has been serving the Blair County community since 1979 with world-class exhibitions and award-winning education programs. The facility was designed with state-of-the-art exhibition and storage space for artwork, and houses the Altoona Area Library's rare collection of

albumen photographic prints by William H. Rau, the official photographer for the Pennsylvania Railroad at the turn of the 20th century.

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. Saturdays. 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.

The Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art receives state arts funding support through a grant from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, a state agency funded by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.