

October 8, 2014

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**RENOWNED LIGONIER PAINTER JAIME COOPER TO SPEAK
AT SAMA-LIGONIER VALLEY**

Ligonier – The Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art at Ligonier Valley will host a Lunch a l'Art program with nationally renowned painter Jaime Cooper on Thursday, November 6. The program, which begins at noon, includes lunch and a presentation by the artist. Cost is \$15 or \$12 for SAMA members. Reservations are required by October 31 and can be made by calling the Museum at (724) 238-6015.

Cooper specializes in oil painting, especially still life, portraits and figurative works, and has a gallery and studio in Ligonier. She teaches private art lessons in her studio and at workshops nationally. Cooper earned a B.S. in microbiology and M.S. in genetics from Pennsylvania State University and then studied art via workshops at Studio Incamminati in Philadelphia and the Art League in Alexandria, Virginia. Her work is represented by Patricia Hutton Galleries in Bucks County, Pennsylvania. She has exhibited nationally, including at the Salmagundi Club in New York City.

Prior to the lunch program will be a meeting of the SAMA Auxiliary at 11 a.m. The Auxiliary is always welcoming new members. If you are interested in joining the Auxiliary, please come to the meeting or call the Museum for further information.

Lunch a l'Art programs are offered to encourage a greater understanding of various art forms and movements, as well as foster a deeper appreciation for the exhibitions presented by the Museum.

The Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art at Ligonier Valley is located at One Boucher Lane and Route 711 South in Ligonier. Hours of operation are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 1 to 5 p.m. weekends. The Museum is a handicapped-accessible facility and is open to the public free of charge. For more information, call the Museum or visit www.sama-art.org.