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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **SAMA-ALTOONA TO EXHIBIT PRIVATE, LOCAL ART COLLECTION**

Altoona – The Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art at Altoona is pleased to announce the opening of *The Heart and Soul of Olga and John Orr*. The exhibition features thirty-five works from the private collection of Olga and John Orr. The Orr collection features a variety of contemporary works and places a strong emphasis on local and regional artists. Notable local artists featured in the exhibition include Jory Albright, Frederick Counsel, Steve Gilbert, Helen Gorsuch, Joe Servello and S. Scott Steberger. *The Heart and Soul of Olga and John Orr* opens December 12 and will remain on view through March 14, 2015.

“John Orr is an unassuming art collector,” said SAMA-Altoona Coordinator Barbara Hollander. “He cherishes beautiful things – his art collection, the world around him, and beautiful women (Olga Orr, of blessed memory). It is with deep pleasure that the Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art at Altoona exhibits this meaningful, private collection that John and Olga have assembled over the years. It gives us an opportunity to delve into the intimate collection of an outstanding collector and personality.”

The Museum will celebrate the exhibition at a *Wicked Wednesday* program on February 11, 2015. The program, modeled after the *Blue Monday* series, includes light supper and libations while guests enjoy the music of Mountain City Grass. Cost is \$20 per person. Please call the Museum at (814) 946-4464 for reservations.

The Museum also will host a Lunch a l’Art program in support of the exhibition on February 12, 2015. The program, which begins at noon, will include lunch and a presentation by John Orr. Cost is \$15 per person or \$14 for SAMA members. Please call the Museum for reservations or additional information.

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. Saturday. 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](http://www.sama-art.org).