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SAMA-LIGONIER VALLEY TO HOST 5th ANNUAL *PAINT OUT*

Ligonier – The Ligonier Valley has no shortage of breathtaking views, and this August the Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art at Ligonier Valley is providing another opportunity to capture that scenery on canvas. The Museum will host its fifth annual *Paint Out* over the weekend of August 23 through 25. The event will welcome artists from throughout Central and Western Pennsylvania to paint, *en plein air*, the Ligonier countryside. The Ligonier Valley is the perfect destination for plein air painting due to its abundance of beautiful vistas, flowing streams, and wooded terrain.

After two days of painting the local landscape, the artists' work will be on view and available for purchase at the Museum during a wet sale and exhibition. The wet sale will be held from 1 to 4 p.m. on Sunday, August 25 and will provide a one-time-only opportunity to purchase the freshly painted works. The wet sale and exhibition is open to the public free of charge.

“Our last four *Paint Out* events were huge successes, and we're hoping for a similar outcome this year,” said event organizer and SAMA-Ligonier Valley Coordinator Sommer Toffle. “The *Paint Out* has proven to be a great event for the Ligonier community. It brings a number of artists and collectors to the Valley, and those who participate and attend are able to experience not only the region's natural beauty, but its wonderful culture, as well.”

Artists who are interested in participating in the *Paint Out* should call the Museum at (724) 238-6015. A \$30 non-refundable registration fee is required by August 16.

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.

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.