

November 20, 2014

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information, contact:

Barbara Hollander, SAMA-Altoona Coordinator
(814) 946-4464

Travis Mearns, Public Relations Coordinator
(724) 238-6015

SAMA EXHIBITION HIGHLIGHTS RECENT ACQUISITIONS

Altoona – The Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art at Altoona is pleased to announce the opening of its latest exhibition, *Recent Acquisitions of the Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art*. The exhibition, on view December 12 through March 14, 2015, features thirty-five paintings, drawings and prints by artists of regional and national stature.

Enriched through the generous gifts of artists and collectors, SAMA's permanent collection has grown steadily since the Museum's founding in 1976. From a core collection of sixty-seven objects, SAMA's holdings now number nearly 4,500 paintings, drawings, prints and sculptures, as well as art objects in glass and other media. New and significant donations of art continue to come in regularly, with the last five years being especially noteworthy. Reaching a high point as SAMA celebrated its milestone thirty-fifth anniversary in 2011, this period has seen a plethora of fine works enter the collection.

A number of these works have recently been displayed in notable exhibitions such as *Colleen Browning: A Brush with Magic* and *The Sullivan Family: Legacy Exhibition*. Yet, there remain numerous recent gifts that have yet to be seen by SAMA audiences. In its focus on recent acquisitions, this exhibition seeks to strike a balance between popular favorites and new objects, and in so doing to give a sense of the richness and diversity of the Museum's collections. Highlights include an early painting by Browning, Tibetan thangkas, and a selection of new works by prominent regional artists including Philip Brulia, Cliff McGuire, Donald M. Robinson and Aileen Zollweg, among others.

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 at (814) 946-4464 or visit www.sama-art.org.