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For more information, contact:  
Travis Mearns, Public Relations Coordinator  
(724) 238-6015

**REGIONAL JURIED ART EXHIBITION TO RETURN TO SAMA-LIGONIER  
VALLEY**

Ligonier – The Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art at Ligonier Valley will celebrate the work of local artists with the *Southwestern Pennsylvania Council for the Arts 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Regional Juried Art Exhibition*. On view November 18 through February 5, the exhibition features 62 works by 60 artists from the 19 southwestern counties of Pennsylvania. Featured works will span a variety of media, including acrylic, oil, pastel, photography, watercolor, lithography, wood, glass, and many others.

Since its inception, the exhibition has become known for its freshness and energy in the art of emerging young artists and for the dazzling presentations of established artists who are developing a new direction with their art. This installment marks the thirteenth consecutive year the exhibition is hosted by SAMA-Ligonier Valley.

Serving as juror was Robert Villamagna, assistant professor of art at West Liberty University and the 2016 West Virginia Artist of the Year. Villamagna works in assemblage, metal and paper collage and mixed media. His work has been exhibited at the Carnegie Museum of Art, Andy Warhol Museum, Penn State's Robeson Gallery, Pittsburgh Center of the Arts, Erie Museum of Art, the West Virginia Culture Center and many others, including multiple college and university galleries. Five of his works are in the State of West Virginia Permanent Collection.

To celebrate the exhibition, SAMA will host an opening reception from 6 to 8 p.m. on Saturday, November 19. The reception is open to the public free of charge. For more information, please call the Museum at (724) 238-6015.

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