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## **REGIONAL JURIED EXHIBITION RETURNS 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 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Regional Juried Art Exhibition*. On view from November 16 through February 10, the exhibition features 73 works from 73 individual artists from the 19 southwestern counties of Pennsylvania. Featured work will span a variety of media, including oil, acrylic, watercolor, pastel, wood, clay, and photography, among 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 ninth consecutive year the exhibition is shown at SAMA-Ligonier Valley.

“We are honored to host the Southwestern Pennsylvania Council for the Arts 17<sup>th</sup> annual exhibition,” said SAMA-Ligonier Valley Coordinator Sommer Toffle. “I look forward to this exhibition every year. There are a great number of talented artists in our midst producing work in a variety of media, and this is a tremendous opportunity to see what they have been creating. It’s also a great exhibition for children, as there will be interactive material provided to help guide them through the exhibition.”

Serving as exhibition juror is Dr. Roberta K. Tarbell, Adjunct Associate Professor in the College of Arts & Sciences at the University of Delaware. Tarbell has a B.S. from Cornell University and M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Delaware. A former chair of the fine arts department at Rutgers University, Tarbell is currently the first Visiting Scholar at the Philadelphia Museum of Art and was co-curator for the exhibition, *Rodin and America*.

To celebrate the exhibition, SAMA will host an opening reception from 6 to 8 p.m. on Saturday, November 17. 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).

This project was made possible through the AIE Partnership of the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, a state agency. State government funding for the arts depends upon an annual appropriation by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and support from the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency. The PCA Arts-in-Education Partner in this region is the Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art.