## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## ARTIST & TEACHER WORKSHOP TO BE HELD AT LIGONIER MUSEUM

Ligonier – The Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art at Ligonier Valley will host a professional development workshop for artists, teachers, school administrators, and the general public on Wednesday, August 1. The Museum's workshops are designed to address the importance of art in education.

The workshop is scheduled for 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The program's morning session will include a presentation by Maureen Vissat, Assistant Professor of Art History at Seton Hill University. Vissat will discuss plein air painting and will give a demonstration of the process. The afternoon session will feature a presentation by local artist Rita Haldeman. She will discuss her career as an artist and also lead the group in some hands-on plein air painting exercises outside on the Museum lawn.

"SAMA offers these workshops as a way to integrate new ideas into the classroom, as well as to provide the opportunity to network with other teachers and artists," said SAMA Education Coordinator, Jessica Campbell. "Topics are based upon ideas from teachers as a way to ensure we are focusing on the needs of the teacher in the classroom."

Cost for the workshop is \$30 per person. Reservations are requested by July 30 and can be made by calling Jessica Campbell at (814) 472-3920. Six hours of ACT 48 credit are available with participation.

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 at (724) 238-6015 or visit <a href="www.sama-art.org">www.sama-art.org</a>.

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.