

March 11, 2014

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information, contact:

Jessica Campbell, Education Coordinator

(814) 472-3920

Travis Mearns, Public Relations Coordinator

(724) 238-6015

SAMA WORKSHOP TO EXPLORE USE OF PERCUSSION AND RHYTHM IN TEACHING

Loretto – The Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art at Loretto will host an Arts-in-Education workshop with Jim Donovan on Saturday, April 12. Donovan is a multi-platinum recording artist and educator whose mission is to empower, inspire and connect people through the power of group music-making. Donovan’s programs use music to promote personal wellness and working as a community. The workshop will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

During the workshop, participants will learn basic rhythm and drumming techniques for individuals and group environments, as well as voice and vocal toning. The group will experience participating in a drum circle, while also learning how to use rhythm to lead health and wellness experiences and how to perform guided meditation and imagery with rhythm. The workshop is designed for beginners and no musical background is necessary to participate.

SAMA Education Coordinator Jessica Campbell said Donovan’s percussion intervention workshops are not only enjoyable, but a valuable learning experience. “Last summer, SAMA, in collaboration with Saint Francis University, started an art camp for children on the autism spectrum. We started each program with a drumming session since most of the kids had participated in workshops or training with Jim Donovan. After seeing how the drumming would relax and calm the campers, I thought we needed to bring these workshops to SAMA, not only for my curious mind but also to train our artists and staff as we prepare for upcoming *stART Something* art camps.”

Donovan is a founding member of the ‘90s band Rusted Root, who sold over three million records to date. He has appeared on the David Letterman and Conan O’Brien shows and has shared the stage with rock legends including The Allman Brothers Band, the Grateful Dead, and Jimmy Page and Robert Plant of Led Zeppelin. He holds a B.A. in music performance from the University of Pittsburgh and a Masters of educational leadership from Saint Francis University, where he is also on faculty.

Cost for the workshop is \$40 per person, with breakfast and lunch included in the price. The workshop is limited to thirty participants. Reservations are required by

April 4 and can be made by calling the Museum at (814) 472-3920. Six hours of ACT 48 credit are available.

The Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art at Loretto is located on the campus of Saint Francis University. Hours of operation are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 1 to 5 p.m. Saturdays. The Museum is open to the public free of charge. For additional information, please call the Museum or visit 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.