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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SAMA-LORETTO TO OFFER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP

Loretto – The Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art at Loretto will host a Professional Development workshop for artists, teachers and school administrators on Friday, November 11. 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 workshop is centered around the Museum’s current exhibition, *Tibetan Treasures: The Rezk Collection of Tibetan and Nepalese Art*. The morning session will provide insight into the Tibetan School of the world’s fourth largest religion, Buddhism. The session will be led by Michael Allison, a former curator of SAMA and a Buddhist with more than twenty years of practice. Allison will provide an overview of the Buddhist religion and will also discuss meditation practices, with a meditation period to close the morning session. After lunch, SAMA Curator for Visual Arts, Dr. Scott Dimond, will lead participants in a gallery tour of the *Tibetan Treasures* exhibition. Following the tour, Allison will lead the group in a hands-on workshop in which the participants are encouraged to create their own piece of devotional art.

Cost for the workshop is \$35 per person. Reservations are requested by November 9, 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 more information, call the Museum or visit www.sama-art.org.

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.