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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SAMA TO OFFER TRIP TO LISBON, MADRID AND BARCELONA

Loretto – In June 2015, the Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art will embark on its sixth *Monuments & Masterpieces* tour. The Museum is pleased to announce that its 2015 tour, scheduled for June 13 through June 24, will visit Lisbon, Portugal, and Madrid and Barcelona in Spain.

Through the *Monuments & Masterpieces* tour, guests will spend ten days touring the most popular destinations in three of Europe's most beautiful cities. The tour begins in Lisbon, where guests will have an opportunity to visit sites such as the Cathedral of Lisbon, Belem Tower, Museo de Fado, Lisbon Aqueduct and Water Museum and Sintra National Palace. On the way to Madrid, the tour will make a stop at Fatima, site of the famous religious visions that occurred in 1917 when an apparition of Mary appeared to three peasant children. While there, guests will visit the beautiful Basilica of Our Lady of the Rosary before crossing the Serra de Estrela, the highest mountain range in continental Portugal, en route to Salamanca and Segovia.

While in Madrid, guests will take a trip along the Gran Via through the Opera District and Plaza de Colon and visit the Royal Palace of Madrid, the only place in the world where visitors can see a complete Stradivarius string quartet. The trip also includes a visit to Spain's main national art museum, Museo del Prado, which boasts works by Francisco de Goya, Diego Velazquez and Peter Paul Rubens in its collection. Also on the itinerary is a visit of the historic palace and monastery at San Lorenzo de El Escorial.

For an additional price, guests can extend their trip by three days to visit Barcelona. The itinerary includes tours of Sagrada Familia the Dali Theatre and Museum and an excursion to Montserrat. For a complete list of all the 2015 *Monuments & Masterpieces* destinations, please call the Museum at (814) 472-3920.

Monuments & Masterpieces is arranged in conjunction with Vacation Station Travel in Greensburg. Cost is between \$4,150 and \$4,450, depending upon number of passengers. A \$500 deposit due by January 31, 2015. The Barcelona trip is an additional \$1,450, including an additional \$250 deposit by January 31. Single participant supplements are \$650 for Lisbon and Madrid and \$350 for Barcelona. The trip is limited to the first thirty reservations. Tickets include round trip air travel, motor coach transportation; ten nights of accommodations, all sight-seeing fees (per itinerary);

several meals (including breakfast daily and ten dinners); services of an English-speaking tour manager throughout the trip; and group travel insurance. For reservations or additional information, call Michael Philopena of Vacation Station Travel at (724) 832-7117.