FASHION SHOW GOES “BACK IN BLACK”

SAMA has celebrated a number of milestones in recent years. This fall, we will realize another important anniversary when SAMA-Altoona hosts its tenth annual fashion show fundraiser. Over the years, The Art of Wine and Fashion has become one of the Altoona area's most anticipated and sophisticated annual events. The fundraiser combines the excitement of big city clubbing with a night of high fashion and fine dining.

Guests at this year's event will find the “Back in Black” theme to provide the perfect backdrop. Organizers are planning for a sleek and sexy approach that will be reflected in the décor, drinks, and fashion show. Chairing the event is Claudia Montero Pequignot, with Jim Cayce serving as Co-Chair.

“ I am excited for this year's Art of Wine and Fashion,” said SAMA-Altoona Coordinator, Barbara Hollander. “The ‘Back in Black’ theme is just perfect for this event. We will have a cutting-edge crowd and I can’t wait to see what little black dresses they will pull out of their closets. Men will be encouraged to dress to the theme as well. Please come out and support the arts and your local museum.”

The Art of Wine and Fashion begins at 6:30 p.m. at the Altoona Museum with a champagne reception and hors d’oeuvres. Later, the party moves next door to The Columns for a buffet dinner by Raphael’s, dessert, dancing, and a silent auction featuring one-of-a-kind purses decorated and painted by Nancy Sheetz. After dinner, las vés trendier wearables will produce a style show featuring an assortment of elegant ensembles. The event also will feature a raffle for an opportunity to win an original Michael Strueber painting.

Tickets are available for $75 per person. Reservations are required by October 29 and can be made by calling the Altoona Museum. Valet parking will be available.

Barbara Hollander, Co-Chair Jim Cayce, and Chair Claudia Montero Pequignot

Colleen Browning: The Enchantment of Realism

By Dr. Philip Eliasoph

“The definitive book on the life and career of Magic Realist painter, Colleen Browning”

Available now! Hardcover • 180 pages • $60

Call SAMA at (814) 472-3920 to order

THE SOUTHERN ALLEGHENIES MUSEUM OF ART NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2012 – ISSUE XX

DIRECTOR’S DESK ... WITH G. GARY MOYER

SAMA’s 34th annual Gala celebrated the arts in grand fashion. We welcomed a record number 418 guests and realized our bottom line goal of $90,000! Given today’s economy and the competitive business environment we face, the accomplishment of these two goals represents, in my opinion, a remarkable achievement. All-in-all, it was an enjoyable evening for everybody in attendance and a successful evening for the Museum.

Funds raised from the Gala help to maintain museum operations and sustain SAMA programs. Generous support from our constituents allows us to offer our exhibitions and many museum programs free of charge to the general public. Gala attendees help us to bring art to the classrooms at schools across the six county region and service over 15,000 area students annually. Because so many contribute so much to the Gala, our education program enriches young lives. Through SAMA's Museum/Healthcare Partnership Program, a successful Gala also helps patients who suffer from chronic pain. The Gala allows SAMA's exhibition and education programs to serve our communities on a rich and significant level.

The Museum is indebted to our many volunteers, table sponsors, donors, vendors, and everyone else who donated their talents, time, goods and services to make this Gala a success. The steering committee worked very hard to make this Gala an enjoyable evening. The Museum staff pitched in to make the Gala a success. Our student interns and service hour students were incredible.

The Herculean efforts, dedication to task, and dynamic leadership of our Gala Co-Chairs, Jim Cayce, Nancy Sheetz, and Michael Strueber, were truly noteworthy. They worked tirelessly to make this Gala a success. The team's creative energy and unbridled enthusiasm were the drivers behind this year's Gala. My sincere thanks to Nancy, Jim, and Michael for all that they did to make this Gala a very special event for all.

As we begin the planning process for next year’s Gala (July 20, 2013), we are looking for ways to improve upon our signature fund-raising event. We are looking at improvements to the live auction, food service, and other changes to make our 35th annual Gala even better. For example, we will limit the number of live auction items to a few key pieces; restage the live auctioneering to a more centralized layout; and install a better sound system. Museums always strive for excellence and our goal remains to offer our constituents only the very best.

Over the years, we have replicated circus showmanship; transported visitors to Paris on one Starry, Starry Night; plugged into the energy of Fire & Ice; painted the Bayou Blue; proudly exhibited our Red, White & Blue; enjoyed an Evening on the Emerald Isle; sampled Bella Tuscany; partied at Mardi Gras and Carnival; experienced the excitement of Lights…Camera…Gala; gone with the Green theme; explored the dark continent in our African Odyssey; gave a Salute to Broadway; gambled on Viva Las Vegas; put on our Black Tie & Boots; and other memorable venues.

Wait until you see, hear, and experience what we have planned for the 35th Gala at SAMA! You won’t want to miss it!
IN THE NEWS

• Father Jonathan Scalone recently donated two Shlomo Katz serigraphs to SAMA. These pieces complete the Way of the Eagle Collection donated by Father Scalone in memory of Rev. Thomas Matts, T.O.R. in 1989.

• We now have signage at SAMA’s Johnstown Museum! The new sign (pictured) is located in front of the Pasquerilla Performing Arts Center.

• SAMA-Ligonier Valley will host its fourth annual Paint Out during the weekend of September 28-30. The event features two days of painting, en plein air, followed by a wet sale and exhibition. For more information, please see the SAMA-Ligonier Valley report on page 5.

SAMA’S BROWNING SYMPOSIUM TO BE STREAMED LIVE ON INTERNET

SAMA is in the midst of its Colleen Browning celebration, and the festivities culminate in early September with the Colleen Browning Symposium on 20th Century American Realism. The event begins at 10 a.m. on September 10 at the Loretto Museum and features four distinguished scholars who will speak on Browning and American realist art of the twentieth century. The symposium is designed to animate and expand an ongoing appreciation for realist art from multiple intellectual and artistic viewpoints.

The Museum’s line-up of symposium speakers has been described as one of the largest gatherings of top academics and scholars on American Realism in the twentieth century. Participants include Dr. Henry Adams, Dr. Philip Eliasoph, Dr. Gail Levin, and Dr. Jonathan Weinberg.

Dr. Henry Adams, a specialist in American art of the nineteenth century, has previously served as the Curator of Fine Arts at the Carnegie Museum of Art in Pittsburgh and has taught at the University of Pittsburgh, the University of Illinois, and the University of Kansas, among others. Dr. Philip Eliasoph is professor of visual & performing arts at Fairfield University in Connecticut. He has made significant contributions to the field of American art and was recently the author of SAMA’s major monograph, Colleen Browning: The Enchantment of Realism. Dr. Gail Levin is a professor of art history, American studies, and women studies at Baruch College and the Graduate Center of CUNY. Her most recent book is Becoming Judy Chicago: A Biography of the Artist. Dr. Jonathan Weinberg is a painter and art historian who has authored several books. He is a visiting critic at the Yale School of Art and a lecturer at The Yale Journal of Criticism.

Video of the event will be streamed live on the Internet using MediaSite. The technology will allow the webcam audience to view simultaneous live video and presentations (such as still pictures or Power Point slides). To view the webcam, visit http://tinyurl.com/82wo5p7. If you can’t attend the live webcast or need to disconnect early, you can still view the presentation by visiting the above link at any time.

WISH LIST

Barbara Hollander, SAMA-Altoona Coordinator

Need: SAMA-Altoona Exhibition Sponsor

Cost: $1500

I would like to have an underwriter sponsor one of our upcoming exhibitions. The cost is $1500, which includes all of the fame and adoration of our entire staff, the reverence of all of Blair County, and all the publicity within our power to print. You will get unlimited access to a Blue Monday reception for your friends and family, and I will throw in a chance to thank your friends at the microphone that evening. How can you resist? I would again like to thank my first sponsor of the year, Nancy Sheetz, for underwriting Death to Life: The Paintings of Jacob D. Metzer.

GENERAL OPERATING CAMPAIGN 2012

Help SAMA reach its goal of $175,000 in 2012 by contributing to the General Operating Campaign. Donations offset the costs of our exhibitions and programming, and allow us to keep all four museum sites open to the public free of charge. For information on how to donate, stop by your local SAMA museum or call (814) 472-3920.

SAMA NEWS

Several young artists visited SAMA-Altoona in August for the Museum’s annual summer arts camp. Instructor Stan Snyder taught the aspiring artists various drawing and shading techniques and provided one-on-one instruction. By the camp’s end, each student created their own “masterpiece,” which was then hung in the Museum.

SAMA TO HOST HEALTH CARE CONFERENCE

SAMA’s Museum/Healthcare Partnership Program will be in the spotlight this November when the Museum hosts the Healing Arts Conference. The two-day event is designed to highlight the importance of art therapy programming and how the arts can aid in the healing and recovery of patients. The conference will focus on art therapy as it relates to diseases such as autism and Alzheimer’s.

“The Healing Arts Conference will be a great opportunity for people to see how important the arts are when it comes to health, healing, and the rehabilitation of individuals who suffer from many different ailments,” said Tina Lehman, SAMA’s Museum/Healthcare Partnership Program Administrator. “It will also be a time for industry professionals, artists, and even students to network, create new partnerships, and share our own experiences.”

Presenters at the conference include Janet Bernson, “The Healing Artist,” who uses creative expression as a tool for making positive life changes, and Dr. Elizabeth Warson, an assistant professor in the graduate art therapy program at George Washington University who employs Native American arts in art therapy programs. Also presenting at the conference will be Cathy Goucher and Jill Scheibler, art therapists from Make Studio, an organization in Baltimore that provides visual arts programming to adults with disabilities; and Dr. Marcia Rosal, professor and director of the art therapy program at Florida State University. A panel comprised of artists and healthcare administrators also will have a discussion about the positive effects of the arts in a healthcare setting.

The conference will be held at the Pitt-Johnstown Conference Center on November 16 and 17. Cost is $100 per person. Reservations are required by November 5 and can be made by calling the Johnstown Museum at (814) 269-7234.

In 2003, SAMA introduced its Museum/Healthcare Partnership Program, an initiative designed to help area residents suffering from mental and physical disabilities. Through the program, SAMA’s trained artists and educators work with health care providers to develop residencies and workshops aimed at providing relief for patients dealing with physical pain and discomfort. In recent years, the program has been expanded to include working with disabled veterans, as well as place a greater emphasis on citizens with mental handicaps.

Nearly ten years later, the Museum’s program has benefited more than 500 individuals throughout central and western Pennsylvania.

YOUNG AT ART

SAMA-Altoona continued its string of successful Blue Monday programs in July. The latest event celebrated the exhibition, From Individual to Universal: The Art of Philip Brudia and Eugene Kayashkin. The artists were in attendance, as was celebrity bartender Joe Risbon. The Museum’s final Blue Monday of 2012 is scheduled for October 8 and will feature the music of Stormy.

Nearly eighty people, including many of the artists, turned out for a reception celebrating SAMA-Johnstown’s summer exhibition, The Art of Healing: Reflections 2012. The exhibition featured approximately twenty works, including drawings, paintings, collage and woodcarvings created by patients of SAMA’s Museum/Healthcare Partnership Program residencies at the John P. Murtha Neuroscience and Pain Institute.

Nancy Wojno with her painting, Poppies.

Barbara Hollander, SAMA-Altoona Coordinator

Need: SAMA-Altoona Exhibition Sponsor

Cost: $1500

I would like to have an underwriter sponsor one of our upcoming exhibitions. The cost is $1500, which includes all of the fame and adoration of our entire staff, the reverence of all of Blair County, and all the publicity within our power to print. You will get unlimited access to a Blue Monday reception for your friends and family, and I will throw in a chance to thank your friends at the microphone that evening. How can you resist? I would again like to thank my first sponsor of the year, Nancy Sheetz, for underwriting Death to Life: The Paintings of Jacob D. Metzer.

GENERAL OPERATING CAMPAIGN 2012

Help SAMA reach its goal of $175,000 in 2012 by contributing to the General Operating Campaign. Donations offset the costs of our exhibitions and programming, and allow us to keep all four museum sites open to the public free of charge. For information on how to donate, stop by your local SAMA museum or call (814) 472-3920.

SAMA NEWS

Several young artists visited SAMA-Altoona in August for the Museum’s annual summer arts camp. Instructor Stan Snyder taught the aspiring artists various drawing and shading techniques and provided one-on-one instruction. By the camp’s end, each student created their own “masterpiece,” which was then hung in the Museum.

SAMA TO HOST HEALTH CARE CONFERENCE

SAMA’s Museum/Healthcare Partnership Program will be in the spotlight this November when the Museum hosts the Healing Arts Conference. The two-day event is designed to highlight the importance of art therapy programming and how the arts can aid in the healing and recovery of patients. The conference will focus on art therapy as it relates to diseases such as autism and Alzheimer’s.

“The Healing Arts Conference will be a great opportunity for people to see how important the arts are when it comes to health, healing, and the rehabilitation of individuals who suffer from many different ailments,” said Tina Lehman, SAMA’s Museum/Healthcare Partnership Program Administrator. “It will also be a time for industry professionals, artists, and even students to network, create new partnerships, and share our own experiences.”

Presenters at the conference include Janet Bernson, “The Healing Artist,” who uses creative expression as a tool for making positive life changes, and Dr. Elizabeth Warson, an assistant professor in the graduate art therapy program at George Washington University who employs Native American arts in art therapy programs. Also presenting at the conference will be Cathy Goucher and Jill Scheibler, art therapists from Make Studio, an organization in Baltimore that provides visual arts programming to adults with disabilities; and Dr. Marcia Rosal, professor and director of the art therapy program at Florida State University. A panel comprised of artists and healthcare administrators also will have a discussion about the positive effects of the arts in a healthcare setting.

The conference will be held at the Pitt-Johnstown Conference Center on November 16 and 17. Cost is $100 per person. Reservations are required by November 5 and can be made by calling the Johnstown Museum at (814) 269-7234.

In 2003, SAMA introduced its Museum/Healthcare Partnership Program, an initiative designed to help area residents suffering from mental and physical disabilities. Through the program, SAMA’s trained artists and educators work with health care providers to develop residencies and workshops aimed at providing relief for patients dealing with physical pain and discomfort. In recent years, the program has been expanded to include working with disabled veterans, as well as place a greater emphasis on citizens with mental handicaps. Nearly ten years later, the Museum’s program has benefited more than 500 individuals throughout central and western Pennsylvania.

YOUNG AT ART

SAMA-Altoona continued its string of successful Blue Monday programs in July. The latest event celebrated the exhibition, From Individual to Universal: The Art of Philip Brudia and Eugene Kayashkin. The artists were in attendance, as was celebrity bartender Joe Risbon. The Museum’s final Blue Monday of 2012 is scheduled for October 8 and will feature the music of Stormy.

Nearly eighty people, including many of the artists, turned out for a reception celebrating SAMA-Johnstown’s summer exhibition, The Art of Healing: Reflections 2012. The exhibition featured approximately twenty works, including drawings, paintings, collage and woodcarvings created by patients of SAMA’s Museum/Healthcare Partnership Program residencies at the John P. Murtha Neuroscience and Pain Institute.

Nancy Wojno with her painting, Poppies.

Barbara Hollander, SAMA-Altoona Coordinator

Need: SAMA-Altoona Exhibition Sponsor

Cost: $1500

I would like to have an underwriter sponsor one of our upcoming exhibitions. The cost is $1500, which includes all of the fame and adoration of our entire staff, the reverence of all of Blair County, and all the publicity within our power to print. You will get unlimited access to a Blue Monday reception for your friends and family, and I will throw in a chance to thank your friends at the microphone that evening. How can you resist? I would again like to thank my first sponsor of the year, Nancy Sheetz, for underwriting Death to Life: The Paintings of Jacob D. Metzer.

GENERAL OPERATING CAMPAIGN 2012

Help SAMA reach its goal of $175,000 in 2012 by contributing to the General Operating Campaign. Donations offset the costs of our exhibitions and programming, and allow us to keep all four museum sites open to the public free of charge. For information on how to donate, stop by your local SAMA museum or call (814) 472-3920.
By Jessica Campbell

Over the weekend of July 27-29, SAMA-Loretto hosted yet another Wet Paint Weekend. The event is becoming one of my favorites because of the wonderful artists and hosts I get to hang out with for a whole weekend. Barb Hollander and I set out on a mission to digitally capture all of the participating artists at work. We traveled back roads and dirt roads to locate everyone...well, almost everyone. Some of our artists like to hide – you know who you are! It is such a great experience to meet new artists, share thoughts and tips, and get to make new friends. Thanks to Saint Francis University, Lou and Mary Lessard, and Ed and Barb O’Brien for views that took our breath away and lunches that were fit for kings. It was another incredible event thanks to those who participated and purchased the amazing works created during those fast but fun two days.

In other news, we held artist/teacher workshops at each SAMA location this year. Our final workshop of the year was held August 1 at SAMA-Ligonier Valley. Maureen Vissat, Assistant Professor of Art History at Seton Hill University, spoke in the morning about plein air painters and the spiritual in art. Vissat also compared and contrasted abstract expressionism to the works that were discussed in the morning. The afternoon session was led by PCA- and SAMA-rostered artist, Rita Haldeman. Rita shared her amazing talents with the group and held a show-and-tell of her works, and later took the group outside among the Museum’s beautiful gardens to paint “en plein air” with one-on-one instruction. Thanks to both speakers for such an enjoyable day of learning. I felt like a college student again. Thanks to Maureen for all of your hard work and motivating words! Rita, thanks for sharing your remarkable paintings and wonderful advice. We should do this again sometime soon!

Time flies when SAMA is having fun. This summer was a success in many ways and I am looking forward to the school year starting. A new school year means new challenges. I am in search of schools that are interested in participating in our education programs, new and old alike. Teachers and artists, it’s time for those early mornings so you can teach and inspire young minds. I know I am very much looking forward to inspiring our area youth to learn and create.

**ART-IN-EDUCATION UPDATE**

**By Jessica Campbell**

Over the weekend of July 27-29, SAMA-Loretto hosted yet another Wet Paint Weekend. The event is becoming one of my favorites because of the wonderful artists and hosts I get to hang out with for a whole weekend. Barb Hollander and I set out on a mission to digitally capture all of the participating artists at work. We traveled back roads and dirt roads to locate everyone...well, almost everyone. Some of our artists like to hide – you know who you are! It is such a great experience to meet new artists, share thoughts and tips, and get to make new friends. Thanks to Saint Francis University, Lou and Mary Lessard, and Ed and Barb O’Brien for views that took our breath away and lunches that were fit for kings. It was another incredible event thanks to those who participated and purchased the amazing works created during those fast but fun two days.

In other news, we held artist/teacher workshops at each SAMA location this year. Our final workshop of the year was held August 1 at SAMA-Ligonier Valley. Maureen Vissat, Assistant Professor of Art History at Seton Hill University, spoke in the morning about plein air painters and the spiritual in art. Vissat also compared and contrasted abstract expressionism to the works that were discussed in the morning. The afternoon session was led by PCA- and SAMA-rostered artist, Rita Haldeman. Rita shared her amazing talents with the group and held a show-and-tell of her works, and later took the group outside among the Museum’s beautiful gardens to paint “en plein air” with one-on-one instruction. Thanks to both speakers for such an enjoyable day of learning. I felt like a college student again. Thanks to Maureen for all of your hard work and motivating words! Rita, thanks for sharing your remarkable paintings and wonderful advice. We should do this again sometime soon!

Time flies when SAMA is having fun. This summer was a success in many ways and I am looking forward to the school year starting. A new school year means new challenges. I am in search of schools that are interested in participating in our education programs, new and old alike. Teachers and artists, it’s time for those early mornings so you can teach and inspire young minds. I know I am very much looking forward to inspiring our area youth to learn and create.

**ART-IN-EDUCATION UPDATE**

**By Jessica Campbell**

Over the weekend of July 27-29, SAMA-Loretto hosted yet another Wet Paint Weekend. The event is becoming one of my favorites because of the wonderful artists and hosts I get to hang out with for a whole weekend. Barb Hollander and I set out on a mission to digitally capture all of the participating artists at work. We traveled back roads and dirt roads to locate everyone...well, almost everyone. Some of our artists like to hide – you know who you are! It is such a great experience to meet new artists, share thoughts and tips, and get to make new friends. Thanks to Saint Francis University, Lou and Mary Lessard, and Ed and Barb O’Brien for views that took our breath away and lunches that were fit for kings. It was another incredible event thanks to those who participated and purchased the amazing works created during those fast but fun two days.

In other news, we held artist/teacher workshops at each SAMA location this year. Our final workshop of the year was held August 1 at SAMA-Ligonier Valley. Maureen Vissat, Assistant Professor of Art History at Seton Hill University, spoke in the morning about plein air painters and the spiritual in art. Vissat also compared and contrasted abstract expressionism to the works that were discussed in the morning. The afternoon session was led by PCA- and SAMA-rostered artist, Rita Haldeman. Rita shared her amazing talents with the group and held a show-and-tell of her works, and later took the group outside among the Museum’s beautiful gardens to paint “en plein air” with one-on-one instruction. Thanks to both speakers for such an enjoyable day of learning. I felt like a college student again. Thanks to Maureen for all of your hard work and motivating words! Rita, thanks for sharing your remarkable paintings and wonderful advice. We should do this again sometime soon!

Time flies when SAMA is having fun. This summer was a success in many ways and I am looking forward to the school year starting. A new school year means new challenges. I am in search of schools that are interested in participating in our education programs, new and old alike. Teachers and artists, it’s time for those early mornings so you can teach and inspire young minds. I know I am very much looking forward to inspiring our area youth to learn and create.

**ALTOONA**

**Colleen Browning: Drawings (Through January 12)**

In Browning’s painting, the human figure typically plays a central role. The mastery of anatomy and physiognomy was a traditional element of formal art training, and from her student days onward, Browning honed her skills by drawing from the live model. The forty-eight works on display in this exhibition reveal not only the artist’s proficiency as a delineator of the human form, but also her dedication to her craft.

**Artists in Our Midst: Art in Common Annual Juried Exhibition (September 14 through January 19)**

The Museum celebrates the work of local and regional artists with the return of this annual favorite. Highlighting the creativity of members of Art in Common, the exhibition regularly features works in a wide variety of media.

**JOHNSTOWN**

**Colleen Browning: Illustrator and Printmaker (Through October 6)**

Like many professional artists, Browning supplemented her income through commercial illustration and printmaking. The thirty-four works in this exhibition provide insight into this lesser-known phase of her career, casting light on her thought processes as she constructed both narrative images for a popular audience and fine art prints for connoisseurs. Particularly revealing is the contrast between the inscrutable Magic Realism of her lithographs and the breezy playfulness of her illustrations for Karen E. Lotz’s children’s book, Can’t Sit Still.

**Allied Artists of Johnstown 80th Annual Juried Art Exhibition (October 12 through January 5)**

The Johnstown Museum will celebrate the artistic achievements of Allied Artists of Johnstown this fall with the group’s 80th annual exhibition. The Allied Artists exhibition consistently features works in a wide variety of media created by some of the region’s most talented artists.

**LIGONIER VALLEY**

**Colleen Browning: The Early Years (Through November 3)**

This exhibition charts Browning’s growth from child prodigy to professional artist. Drawings such as Cathedral Wedding, made when the artist was just sixteen years old, reveal unusual sophistication and imaginative powers. The artist’s innate love of the whimsical and fantastic receded somewhat as she applied herself to the formal exercises of London’s Slade School, yet from time to time it still emerged in the boldly expressive contours of her figure studies. A total of forty-six works will be on view.

**Colleen Browning: Magic Realist (Through October 13)**

This exhibition focuses on Browning’s paintings and includes approximately forty of the artist’s master works. As Browning settled into life in America, her work diverged into two main streams. One current was prosaic, consisting of mainly images derived from the artist’s frequent travels. The other was personal and idiosyncratic, reflecting the artist’s innate love of the whimsical and fantastic receded somewhat as she applied herself to the formal exercises of London’s Slade School, yet from time to time it still emerged in the boldly expressive contours of her figure studies. A total of forty-six works will be on view.

**Seeing and Believing: Art Encounters Faith (Through December 8)**

The dialogue between art and religion comes to life in the Museum’s collection of paintings, drawings, prints and photographs. Although much of the material centers on Christianity, other beliefs also are represented, including Judaism, Buddhism, and Native American spirituality.

**Biennial 2012 (October 26 through January 26)**

SAMA’s Biennial is known as the top juried exhibition for contemporary local artists. The exhibition offers the very best in local and regional artistic talent, with selected works typically numbering more than 100 in a diverse collection of media.
A record crowd helped the Museum “Celebrate the Arts” at the 34th annual Gala this summer. Organizers were hoping for a big turnout, and that proved to be the case as 418 people attended the fundraiser. A live auction featured more than a dozen items, including artwork, sculptures, scholarships, a private tour of Fallingwater, a live horse, and more. And the event proved to be incredibly memorable for one couple who got engaged at the Gala! Chairs Jim Cayce, Nancy Sheetz and Michael Strueber made quite an impression by assembling one of the largest, most colorful, and most vibrant Galas in history. Be sure to mark July 20 on your calendars for the 2013 Gala.

SAMA expanded its Board of Trustees in June to include four new members. Executive Director Gary Moyer searched for a diverse group who could bring to the Museum a wide range of experience and expertise. Joining the Board of Trustees is James M. Cayce of Hollidaysburg, Marian Morgan of Johnstown, Nancy Sheetz of Hollidaysburg, and Michael M. Strueber of Hollidaysburg.

“I congratulate and welcome our new Board members to SAMA,” said Moyer. “My colleagues and I are pleased that they will be joining our leadership team, and we look forward to working with Jim, Marian, Nancy and Michael to address the challenges we face and to capitalize on the opportunities that are ahead.”

Cayce has been actively involved with SAMA since moving to Hollidaysburg in 2003. A sustaining member of the Museum, Cayce’s initial involvement came through SAMA-Altoona’s The Art of Wine and Fashion fundraiser, an event he chaired in 2005 and 2006 and co-chaired in 2010 and 2011. Additionally, he has been a member of the Gala committee since 2004. Cayce also serves on the Board of Directors of the Blairmont Club, and was its President from 2008 to 2011.

Morgan has a long history with the Museum, including having formerly served as SAMA’s Public Relations/Membership Coordinator. She has been a member of the Gala committee, twice served as Gala Co-Chair, and was a past president of the Museum’s auxiliary. In addition to her work with SAMA, Morgan has served on the American Cancer Society’s Pink Ribbon Ball committee and has been Publicity and Mental Health Chairperson for the Blair County Medical Society Auxiliary.

Sheetz is a life-long artist skilled in weaving, oil painting, decoupage, and furniture design, among other disciplines. A world traveler and avid art collector, Sheetz also is known as a master gardener and an accomplished pianist. She has been actively involved with SAMA and the Gala, and has also been a strong supporter of the Altoona Symphony Orchestra.

Strueber was the founding director of SAMA and served in that capacity for twenty-four years. He is the managing director of the Colcom Foundation and an advisory board member of Fallingwater. He has been active as a trustee of several charitable, cultural and educational organizations, including the Cordelia S. May Trust, Juniata College, and the Phipps Conservatory of Pittsburgh. A highly respected and collectible artist, Strueber also is the owner and operator of Allegheny Art Gallery in Hollidaysburg, and was the founder and past chairman of the Pennsylvania Rural Arts Alliance and Chair of the Department of Fine Arts at Saint Francis University.
By Barbara Hollander

Gala may be behind us, but visions of fabulous still linger. As your self-appointed SAMA Fashion Police representative, here are a few observations of what our guests wore, and wore well.

The outstanding color of the evening for both men and women seemed to be white. An interesting choice, since so many thought that bold was the only way to go. My pick for “Best Dressed Female” is Cindy Newman. Wow! What a stunner in that short, sparkled slit-armed mini. Other women dressed in white (or shades of it) who really stood out were Jan Andrews, Dorothea Nelson, Amy Poon, Angela Rowe and Nancy Sheez. Not to be out-done, our men in white were equally amazing. Let us start with one of our Gala chairs. Our “Best Dressed Male” would be Dick Scholton like a Jackson Pollock canvas. Ken Cotlar had fabulous artist quotes on his shirt, and Kopac, Eva Kranich, Renee Noel and David DeGol, white were equally amazing. Let us start with one of the gang are already planning and I do not want to do it without you, nor can I.

By Tina Lehman

We will have on display from August 23 to October 6 Colleen Browning: Illustrator and Printmaker. This exhibit is very special to SAMA and will kick off a series of exhibitions celebrating Browning at all SAMA sites. Following our Browning show will be the 80th annual Allied Artists of Johnstown juried exhibition, which will open October 12. The artists in this exhibition always seem to outdo themselves and I’m sure this year will be no exception. There will be a reception on November 8 at 6 p.m. to acknowledge the AAJ members and their wonderful creativity. The reception is free of charge, but reservations are welcome by November 5.

The inaugural Healing Arts Conference at SAMA-Johnstown is taking shape and promises to be a great event. The Conference will be held on November 16 and 17 at the UJP Conference Center. Featured presenters include Janet Bernson, known as “The Healing Artist,” Dr. Marcia Rosal, Professor and Director of the art therapy department at Florida State University, and Cathy Goucher and Jill Schiebler from Make Studio in Baltimore. Please contact the Museum for more information and reservations.

Please remember to support the arts in your community, and I hope to see you this fall!

By Scott Dimond

At SAMA we are always happy to field questions about art and artists. Indeed, educating our audiences is one of the Museum’s primary goals. However, there is one very frequently asked question that we are constrained to leave unanswered, namely, “what is my artwork worth?” As museum professionals with a vested interest in acquiring art for our own permanent collection, assigning a dollar value to a private collector’s property represents a conflict of interest. At the same time, while we have a general notion about the relative values of certain art objects, we are not attuned to the latest shifts in the market. Thus any value we might suggest could simply be plain wrong!

The best way to find out what your art might be worth is to contact a certified appraiser through the website of the American Society of Appraisers at www.appraisers.org. A certified appraiser will consult auction records and other sources in order to ascertain an approximated retail value. Not infrequently, such appraisers are dealers themselves and have many years’ experience buying and selling.

You will most likely want to contact the appraiser nearest to you, as he or she will be more knowledgeable about what the regional market will bear. By the same token, your area appraiser will be more familiar with local artists who are less well known elsewhere. For example, a Pittsburgh appraiser will be very familiar with a regional painter working in the White Mountains of New Hampshire, it might make better sense to contact an appraiser in Portsmouth or Boston.

Appraisal work can be expensive, often running to two or three hundred dollars per object appraised. A professional appraiser can be very useful for estate planning, insurance, and tax deduction purposes, but you will want to make sure that you need it—and that it’s worth it. In many cases, the monetary value of the art object is not worth the cost of appraising it.

As curator, I may not be able to tell you what your art is worth, but I can help you to determine whether an appraisal is worthwhile. To that end, please feel free to contact me after I return in January from my leave of absence. In the meantime, always remember that the true value of any work of art lies in the joy it brings to the viewer!
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ALTOONA</th>
<th>JOHNSTOWN</th>
<th>LIGONIER VALLEY</th>
<th>LORETTO</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>SEPTEMBER</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>10</strong></td>
<td><strong>18</strong></td>
<td>Lunch a l’Art with Gary Moyer (LV)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colleen Browning Symposium on 20th Century American Realism (LOR)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Biennial 2012 opens (LOR)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>14</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Artists in Our Midst opens (ALT)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>28-30</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paint Out (LV)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>OCTOBER</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>6</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colleen Browning: Illustrator &amp; Printmaker closes (JTN)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>8</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blue Monday with Stormy (ALT)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Reception for Allied Artists of Johnstown 80th Annual Juried Art Exhibition (JTN)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>12</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allied Artists of Johnstown 80th Annual Juried Art Exhibition opens (JTN)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>13</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colleen Browning: Magic Realist closes (LOR)</td>
<td></td>
<td>Healing Arts Conference (JTN)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>NOVEMBER</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>1</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Lunch a l’Art with Diana Williams (LV)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>The Art of Wine and Fashion (ALT)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>4</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td>Colleen Browning: The Early Years closes (LV)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>8</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Reception for Allied Artists of Johnstown 80th Annual Juried Art Exhibition (JTN)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>16-17</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Healing Arts Conference (JTN)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**SAMA SITES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ALTOONA</th>
<th>JOHNSTOWN</th>
<th>LIGONIER VALLEY</th>
<th>LORETTO</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1210 11th Avenue</td>
<td>Pasquerilla Performing Arts Center</td>
<td>One Boucher Lane</td>
<td>Saint Francis University Mall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Altoona, PA 16601</td>
<td>450 Schoolhouse Road</td>
<td>Route 711 South</td>
<td>P.O. Box 9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ph: (814) 946-4464</td>
<td>Johnstown, PA 15904</td>
<td>Ligonier, PA 15658</td>
<td>Loretto, PA 15940</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fax: (814) 946-3131</td>
<td>Ph: (814) 269-7234</td>
<td>Ph: (724) 238-6015</td>
<td>Ph: (814) 472-3920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:altoona@sama-art.org">altoona@sama-art.org</a></td>
<td>Fax: (814) 269-7236</td>
<td>Fax: (724) 238-6281</td>
<td>Fax: (814) 472-4131</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><a href="mailto:johnstown@sama-art.org">johnstown@sama-art.org</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:ligonier@sama-art.org">ligonier@sama-art.org</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:loretto@sama-art.org">loretto@sama-art.org</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>