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ALLIED ARTISTS ANNUAL EXHIBITION RETURNS TO SAMA-JOHNSTOWN

Johnstown – The Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art at Johnstown is pleased to announce the opening of its latest exhibition, *Allied Artists of Johnstown 86th Annual Juried Art Exhibition*. The exhibition opens August 24 and will remain on view through December 14. The Allied Artists exhibition annually presents compelling and inspiring artwork created by many of the area's most talented artists. This year's installment features 42 works in acrylic, charcoal, clay, mixed media, oil, photography and watercolor, among other media. Nearly 30 artists will be represented in the exhibition.

Serving as juror was painter and educator Susan Palmisano. She is Professor of Painting at Indiana University of Pennsylvania, where she also serves as Graduate Counselor for the MA and MFA programs in art. Palmisano's paintings have been shown in more than 70 national and international exhibitions. She earned an MFA in painting from University of Cincinnati and a BFA in painting from University of Dayton. She recently traveled to Indonesia and China, where she was an invited visiting professor at Ganesha University in Singaraja, Bali; Petra Christian University in Surabaya, Java; and Wenzhou University in China.

SAMA-Johnstown will celebrate the exhibition's opening with a reception on Friday, August 31 from 6 to 8 p.m. The event is open to the public free of charge.

Begun in the mid-1920s when Margery Coleman Harris and seven of her friends formed an art group to share their interest in painting, the Allied Artists of Johnstown was formally incorporated in 1932. The organization has grown from its original membership of eight to more than 100 artists. The group mounts an average of three exhibitions annually, sponsors scholarships for graduating high school seniors pursuing careers in the arts and, through its Friends of Art Fund, donates art work to local public institutions.

The Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art at Johnstown is located in the Pasquerilla Performing Arts Center on the campus of the University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown. Hours of operation are 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. The Museum is a handicapped-accessible facility and is open to the public free of charge. For more information, please call the Museum at (814) 269-7234 or visit www.sama-art.org.