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## **BLAIR COUNTY ARTIST FEATURED AT SAMA-ALTOONA**

Altoona – The Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art at Altoona is pleased to announce the opening of its latest exhibition, *Deb Bunnell: Relatives and Other Stories*. Featuring nearly three dozen paintings and drawings in acrylic, watercolor and colored pencil, the exhibition opens September 15 and will remain on view through January 13.

Deb Bunnell paints memories that she associates with strong emotions. Using family photos for reference, she explores her passion for the subject in the way she paints it. “By the time I’ve touched the moment many times over with paint and love, I hope to draw the viewer in with me,” said the artist.

In her art, Bunnell explores light, shadow and color, often using colors that she feels rather than sees. Texture also plays an important role. “I get excited about textures and reflective surfaces,” she said. “Celtic knots and handprints are dear to my heart, but all the technical fun serves to tell the story.”

Raised in Hershey, Bunnell is a graduate of Millersville University and the University of the Arts in Philadelphia. She has more than a decade of experience in illustrating children’s textbooks and is an accomplished pet portraitist and folk musician. Upon moving to Hollidaysburg in 1995, Bunnell led numerous children’s art camps and mural projects at local schools. Eventually, she joined SAMA as a teaching artist and now shares her talents in residencies at schools throughout the region.

Bunnell will speak at a Lunch a l’Art at the Museum on October 11. Cost for the program, which begins at noon, is \$15 per person or \$14 for SAMA members. Please call the Museum at (814) 946-4464 for reservations.

The Museum will celebrate the exhibition with a Wicked Wednesday on November 15. Light supper and libations will be provided while guests enjoy live music. Cost is \$15 per person. Please call the Museum for reservations.

The Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art at Altoona is located in the Brett Building at 1210 Eleventh Avenue. Hours of operation are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 1 to 5 p.m. Saturday. The Museum is a handicapped-accessible facility and is open to the public free of charge. Parking is available in the garage across the street or in metered spots in the lot at the rear of the building. For more information, call the Museum or visit [www.sama-art.org](http://www.sama-art.org).