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BEDFORD MUSEUM OPENS GIFT SHOP

Bedford – The gift-giving season is just around the corner, and the Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art at Bedford has a new store where you can find that perfect present. Earlier this month, the Museum opened a gift shop in its Anderson Legacy Gallery. An official ribbon-cutting ceremony, open to the public, will be held at the Museum at 1 p.m. on November 2.

Open during regular Museum hours, the gift shop offers an interesting mix of art, apparel, books and more. Displayed on the walls and available for sale is contemporary artwork by several local artists, as well as 19th century paintings from Bedford Fine Art Gallery. A variety of turned wood items, from bowls and cutting boards to sculptural works, also are in stock. Books and note cards featuring art by local artists are readily available, and guests also can find tote bags and t-shirts in kids' and adult sizes featuring the SAMA logo. Creativity kits are also for sale and provide a great gift opportunity for young artists.

The Museum's gift shop was made possible through generous contributions from SAMA trustees and patrons, including four display cases donated by Kranich's Jewelers. The store adds an exciting new component to SAMA-Bedford's visitor experience, which also features eight galleries, interactive displays and audio tours, a children's creativity studio, and a community garden.

"This gift shop could never have come to fruition without the goodness and generosity of our trustees and patrons," said SAMA-Bedford Site Coordinator Debbie Grazier. "Our visitors will now be able to take something home with them to commemorate their visit to SAMA-Bedford while also providing crucial help for the Museum."

The Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art at Bedford is located in the historic Anderson House at 137 E. Pitt St. The Museum is open daily 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Fridays 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. The Museum is closed Tuesdays. Cost of admission is \$10 per person or free admission for SAMA members, ages 21 & under and 65 & older. The Museum offers free admission for Bedford residents on the first and third Wednesdays of every month. Parking is available on the street or in the lot at the rear of the building. For more information, please visit www.sama-art.org.