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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **MASTER GLASS CUTTER TO PRESENT AT LIGONIER VALLEY MUSEUM**

Ligonier – The Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art at Ligonier Valley will welcome master glass cutter Peter O’Rourke for a Lunch a l’Art presentation on Thursday, April 19. Cost for the program, which begins at noon, is \$15 per person or \$12 for SAMA members. Reservations are required by calling the Museum at (724) 238-6015 by April 13.

Originally from Ireland, O’Rourke has been designing and cutting glass for nearly 50 years. He began an apprenticeship with Galway Crystal in 1970, and within seven years had completed his apprenticeship and earned the title of Master Glass Cutter and Engraver. He and his family moved to America in the early 1980s when Lenox recruited him for a products coordinator position at their American production facility in Mount Pleasant. O’Rourke worked on special projects from custom gifts and stemware for U.S. Senators to creating the awards for the PGA/LPGA tour winners until the Mount Pleasant factory closed in 2001.

In tandem with Lenox, O’Rourke has created the inaugural crystal bowls given to each new President of the United States since Ronald Reagan. These intricate bowls include several cutting techniques and can take weeks to create. For the past 36 years, he has designed and sold his own cut glass and has contributed as an artistic contractor for the likes of Lenox, Tiffany and Waterford.

Prior to the lunch program will be a meeting of the SAMA Auxiliary at 11 a.m. If you are interested in joining the Auxiliary, please attend the meeting or call the Museum for further information.

Lunch a l’Art programs are offered to encourage a greater understanding of various art forms and movements, as well as foster a deeper appreciation for the exhibitions presented by the Museum.

The Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art at Ligonier Valley is located at One Boucher Lane and Route 711 South in Ligonier. Hours of operation are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 1 to 5 p.m. weekends. The Museum is a handicapped-accessible facility and is open to the public free of charge. For more information, call the Museum or visit [www.sama-art.org](http://www.sama-art.org).