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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**SAMA-BEDFORD TO DEDICATE GARDEN IN MEMORY OF MELINDA “MOUSE”  
GRASS; PUBLIC CEREMONY SCHEDULED FOR JUNE 13**

Bedford – The Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art at Bedford is celebrating the life of one of Bedford County’s most respected artists with a new flower garden. Located at the rear of the Museum, the Mouse Grass Memorial Garden will offer a variety of perennials, shrubs and trees for the public to enjoy. The Museum will hold a public dedication of the new garden at 10 a.m. on Wednesday, June 13.

The garden measures 40’ x 18’ and is surrounded by a hand-laid 2 ½’ Pennsylvania fieldstone wall. It is located at the rear of the Anderson House and runs parallel to the Museum’s porches. Community members have donated resources for the development of the memorial garden and have raised nearly \$8,000 to date. The project is led by SAMA Ambassador Recie Dolan and SAMA Trustee and Director Emeritus Michael Strueber. SAMA’s ambassadors and trustees have assisted with the garden project.

Melinda “Mouse” Myers Grass was a graduate of Everett High School and earned a B.A. in art history from Dickinson College. She attended the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts for four years, where she met and married Robert “Robin” Grass. The couple moved to Everett in 1975 where they refurbished an old iron foundry. By the following year, the couple opened the Foundry Art Studio where they taught art and hosted exhibitions. Mrs. Grass was a founding and lifelong board member of the Bedford County Arts Council and an important part of the Bedford arts community. Her paintings have been exhibited throughout the state. Additionally, she was an award-winning gardener whose gardens were floral works of art enjoyed by the community.

The Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art at Bedford is located in the 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 and under and 65 and 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](http://www.sama-art.org).