

Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art



ANNUAL REVIEW 2008

The Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art mourns the passing of Jonna Bryan, a dear friend of the Museum. Jonna has been a part of the SAMA family since her teenage years. She first became active with the Museum by participating in the auxiliary-sponsored fashion show luncheons, and in recent years had become a key member of the Gala and Fashion Show steering committees. Most recently, she served as Chair of SAMA-Altoona's *The Art of Wine and Fashion*. A devoted wife and mother, Jonna became a dear friend to anyone who had the pleasure to know her. She will be deeply missed by the SAMA family, and the Museum dedicates this Annual Review in her honor.



G. Gary Moyer

Executive Director

Looking back over the challenges and opportunities of my first year as Executive Director at SAMA, I discovered that the Museum's real treasures are not on canvas or cast in clay but are the people who are truly committed to the Museum's success. Throughout the year, all the people associated with the Museum were absolutely wonderful. We could not have accomplished what we did in 2008 without the effort and enthusiasm of all the people who were so dedicated to our success. The list of Museum patrons is long and it has been an honor and a privilege for me to serve alongside them to realize the mission of the Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art to preserve, exhibit and advance American art and to make SAMA's programs and activities accessible to the people of the southwestern area of central Pennsylvania. We are dedicated to establishing a cultural legacy for the people of this region for generations to come.

As we begin a new year, Shirley Lingenfelter steps down as President of our Board of Trustees. SAMA survives and thrives today because Shirley stepped up when the Museum desperately needed leadership. At times, she has had to play multiple roles - Board President, SAMA Director and Museum patroness - and she played her parts well. SAMA owes Shirley Lingenfelter a debt of gratitude for a job well done. John Duggan will transition from Vice President replacing Shirley as Board President and Ann Benzel will become Vice President of the Board of Trustees.

Joan Welch McCreary also completes her term as Secretary to the Board of Trustees. SAMA has been very fortunate to have had Joan in this key leadership position. Over the years, her insight and input have been invaluable to SAMA. She has contributed immeasurably to SAMA's success and we are pleased that she will continue to be actively engaged in the Museum's future as a valued member of the Board of Trustees. Jeanne Gleason will now function as Board Secretary. Tom Koppmann will continue on as the Board of Trustees' Treasurer and will play a key role on both the Board's Finance and Executive committees.

I am pleased to report that 2008 was a good year. We set goals and achieved them. The support and generosity of SAMA's membership and a grateful public was the foundation of our success. The Museum's total income at the bottom line for 2008 was up over 35% when compared to the prior year. We exceeded the annual GOC goal by over 30% and reversed a declining trend line. The Garden Party at the Ligonier Valley Museum set a record for attendance and doubled the return to the bottom line for this event. The Loretto Museum's Gala was a huge success with an increase in both attendance and dollars. The Fashion Show at the Altoona Museum surpassed the prior year in attendance and dollars. When compared to 2007, foundation income increased significantly for 2008. We were able to tend to facility issues at the Altoona, Ligonier Valley and Loretto museums. We addressed staffing matters filling the Bookkeeper, Site Coordinator, and Art Educator positions. We expanded the Board of Trustees from 23 members to 28. Throughout the year, the Museum acquired 140 works of art. *Portraits of the Eastern Frontier* at the Ligonier Valley Museum attracted 5,000 visitors. The *Celebration of the Wolf Family Donations to the Permanent Collection* exhibition featured many of SAMA's most prestigious works and honored the Wolf family as respected patrons of the Museum.

Of course, like most not-for-profit organizations, we had our challenges in 2008 and that will continue to be the case in the new year. Fortunately, SAMA has good people who will do what it takes to get the job done. These people have the pride and the passion to drive SAMA to succeed. The promise and the possibilities that are ahead are unbounded. I am very excited about what the future holds for the Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art and I look forward to joining with you in the experiences that lie ahead.

My sincere appreciation is extended to all of the individuals who work tirelessly on behalf of the Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art. I offer a special thank you to the Museum staff for their efforts and hard work on our varied programs and projects. The Board of Trustees deserves our gratitude for their active involvement, timely direction and strategic leadership. I also recognize an active and involved community whose continued support is critical to the Museum's future. Finally, I thank the Director's Circle, Museum Associates, Education and Exhibition Patrons and other donors who give generously to help make our work at Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art possible.

G. Gary Moyer
Executive Director

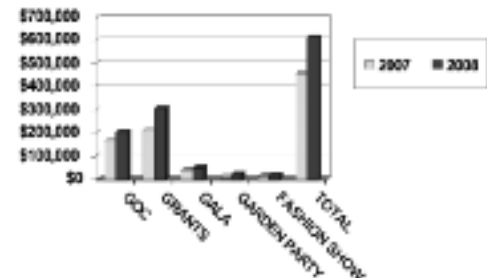
ALTOONA

JOHNSTOWN

LIGONIER VALLEY

LORETTO

SAMA FUNDING OVERVIEW





President

John K. Duggan, Jr.

As I enter my first year serving as President of the Board of Trustees of the Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art, I am encouraged to know that I am surrounded by a dedicated and competent board, administration and staff. While the first steps tend to be the most difficult, mine are eased by knowing this organization is blessed with such a creative and committed core. When I joined this board in 1980, I was immediately impressed by SAMA's quality exhibitions and programs. Over the years, I have had the opportunity to watch the Museum grow, expanding into new communities and offering a wide range of exhibitions and educational programming that reach tens of thousands of people annually. The more involved I become in the Museum's operations, the greater the sense of satisfaction and appreciation I have in the incredible work we do. And now that I assume the position of board president, I look forward to playing a greater role within the Museum as we continue to offer a vital service to our communities throughout Western and Central Pennsylvania.

I would like to acknowledge our outgoing president, Shirley Lingenfelter, for her valued leadership over the past four years. The job was difficult at times, but Shirley's determination and commitment provided a guiding force, leading our Museum into a period of great success. I am indebted to her stellar leadership, and am honored to have had the opportunity to serve as her Vice President. I also would like to express my sincere gratitude to Ann Benzel, a former board president, for assuming the position of Vice President. Her dedication, experience and expertise will be integral as we move forward. Additionally, I would like to welcome Secretary Jeanne Gleason to the Executive Committee, and extend my thanks to Thomas Koppmann for retaining his position as Treasurer.

As I reflect on this past year, I remember a time of tremendous success for the Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art. Our fundraising, grant-writing and General Operating Campaign initiatives were great triumphs, and I would like to thank our Executive Director, G. Gary Moyer, for helping to make that happen. His commitment to this institution has led to one of the Museum's strongest years financially in recent history. I am encouraged to know that he is at the helm, and I look forward to a continued period of achievement under his stewardship. SAMA also is blessed to have a dedicated staff, many of whom have been with the Museum for several years. Their fine work helps me move into this new position knowing that we will be able to carry on this legacy of providing the outstanding exhibitions and educational programming our communities have come to expect from SAMA.

Although the world's economic situation is troubling, I find great optimism for the future of our Museum. Last year served as a catalyst for revitalization, and I see that continuing in the days, months and years ahead. Some of our programs, such as our Arts-for-Healing initiative, are showing remarkable growth. Our fundraisers have been turning record profits, and our diverse exhibitions and programming continue to attract strong numbers. Additionally, we have six new members to the Board of Trustees, each of whom brings a fresh perspective and unique skills and talents to the institution. Please help me in welcoming Cassandra Davies, Noel Feeley, Deborah Kimball, Dr. Scott Little, Rosemary Pawlowski, and Dr. Jem Spectar to our Museum. I look forward to working with each of you in the years ahead.

It takes a strong commitment from the staff and board for an institution to attain the success enjoyed by our Museum. I would like to commend the hard work of our Board of Trustees, Director, staff, auxiliary, advisory board members, volunteers, and patrons. Each of you has played a significant role in our accomplishments, and I want you to know how grateful I am for your participation and dedication. It will be my privilege to work alongside each of you in the years ahead.

Sincerely,
John K. Duggan, Jr.
President, Board of Trustees

Board of Trustees

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2008 in Review

From noteworthy exhibitions to important milestones, 2008 was a year full of highlights for the Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art. It marked the first year under the leadership of Executive Director, G. Gary Moyer. The Museum received numerous grants, while seeing great success through its General Operating Campaign. Key staff members were added to the museum team, and six new members were welcomed onto the Board of Trustees.

In May, SAMA-Ligonier Valley mounted one of the Museum's most acclaimed exhibitions to date, with the opening of *Portraits of the Eastern Frontier*. The exhibition featured works by prominent national historical artists Robert Griffing, John Buxton and Chas Fagan, in addition to respected local artists J.A. Cooper, Rita Kambic Haldeman and Mark P. Seraly. In July, guests attending the Loretto Museum's 30th annual Gala had an opportunity to peruse the exhibition, *Celebration of the Wolf Family Donations to the Permanent Collection, 1986-2006*. The exhibition featured some of SAMA's benchmark works donated by the Wolf family, among the Museum's most benevolent family patrons. More than 100 works from artists such as Mary Cassatt, Andy Warhol, Norman Rockwell, Grant Wood, Alice Neel and Alexander Calder were on display.

The Altoona Museum featured exhibitions of renowned Egyptian artist, Kamal Youssef, and textile artist, Mary Sheppard Burton, considered one of the world's foremost authorities on the art of rug-hooking. The Ligonier Valley Museum mounted an exhibition of the abstract expressionist works of Pittsburgh artist, Joan Milsom. An installation at the Loretto Museum featured a moving piece by Pittsburgh artist Holly Wayne, created to preserve the memory of the New York skyline prior to the events of September 11, 2001.

Throughout the year, SAMA continued its tradition of providing a venue for local artists, mounting annual exhibitions by members of Allied Artists of Johnstown (SAMA-Johnstown), Art in Common (SAMA-Altoona) and the Southwestern Pennsylvania Council for the Arts (SAMA-Ligonier Valley). The fall of 2008 marked the return of the Museum's *Biennial*, an invitational exhibition celebrating our talented local artists. Regional artists Carol Goldberg and Laura Winn Kane were featured in exhibitions at the Altoona and Johnstown museums, while Judith Counsel Vipond had exhibitions at SAMA-Altoona and SAMA-Loretto. Additionally, the region's history was a focal point. The Altoona Museum continued its annual tradition of displaying the works of William H. Rau, the official photographer for the Pennsylvania Railroad at the turn of the 20th century, and SAMA-Johnstown's exhibition, *Black as Coal/Hard as Steel* examined Pennsylvania's coal strip mining and steel industries, including several images from the Franklin Borough steel mill in Johnstown. SAMA's Permanent Collection also was featured during the year in three separate exhibitions, including *The Education Collection: Unplugged*, which shared with the public artwork SAMA educators take into the schools through the Museum's Arts-in-Education program.

Thousands of visitors came through SAMA's doors in 2008 not just for the exceptional exhibitions, but for a variety of educational, musical and seasonal programs. Throughout the spring and summer months, the Altoona Museum hosted its third season of *Blue Monday*, a program designed to bring together the region's finest visual, musical and culinary arts. In June, the Loretto Museum hosted a Family Fun Day event in celebration of the exhibition, *Cents & Sensibility: Benjamin Franklin and Popular Culture*. Approximately 80 children and parents turned out for the event, which included an exhibition tour, art projects and science experiments. During the holiday season, the SAMA-Ligonier Valley Auxiliary sponsored its fourth annual Holiday Home Tour, while SAMA-Altoona offered a "pizza and parade party" that combined the Museum's annual *Antique Dolls* exhibition with Altoona's *The Spirit of Christmas* parade.



Biennial artists Ron Donoughe (far left) and Michael Rowe (second from right) with SAMA Interim Curator/Registrar Bobby Moore and Executive Director G. Gary Moyer at the opening reception for *Biennial 2008*.



Education Coordinator Liz Garlena teaches the art of printmaking to children at the Loretto Museum's Family Fun Day.



Sally Gordon (left) and Ed O'Brien (center) were among the musicians who joined Tom McCarty at SAMA-Altoona's Blue Monday street party in June.



G. Gary Moyer with SAMA patrons Aline and Gerald P. Wolf at the opening reception of *Celebration of the Wolf Family Donations to the Permanent Collection, 1986-2006*.



Guests visit one of the stops along SAMA-Ligonier Valley's annual Holiday Home Tour.



(From left) Karen Azer, Ieva Grimm, Barbara Hollander and Mary Borkow at the opening of *Celebration of the Wolf Family Donations to the Permanent Collection, 1986-2006*.

New Board Members

| | | |
|---|---|---|
|  |  |  |
| Dr. Scott Little | Noel Feeley | Deborah Kimball |
|  |  |  |
| Cassandra Davies | Rosemary Pawlowski | Dr. Jem Spectar |

New Acquisitions

The Museum added 140 works into its Permanent Collection in 2008. Thank you for your continued support of the Museum as we build a solid collection of American art for our communities.

Willie Lee Atkyns (American, 1913 - 1987)

Untitled, 1968
Oil on Masonite, 47 1/2" x 29 1/2"
Gift of Larry Feathers

George Wesley Bellows (American, 1882 - 1925)

The Drunk (Second Stone), 1923-24
Lithograph on Basingwerk parchment paper, 16" x 13"
Gift of the Frank and Margaret Sullivan Fund

Richard Bosman (American, b. India, 1944)

Fishing Boat II, 1996
Woodcut, 16" x 20"
Gift of the Frank and Margaret Sullivan Fund

Gary Bukovnik (American, b. 1947)

Harmony in Blue and Green, 1985
Watercolor on paper, 59 1/2" x 30 1/4"
Gift of Judith Finkelstein

Charles Merrick Capps (American, 1898 - 1981)

Into the Hills, n.d.
Etching, 6 7/8" x 12"
Gift of the Frank and Margaret Sullivan Fund

Sandy Cole and Kevin Brown (American)

Green Devil Face Jug, ca. 1997
Clay, glazed, 9 1/4" x 6 1/4" x 6 1/4"
Native American Face Jug, ca. 1997
Clay, glazed, 11 1/4" h x 6" dia.
Gifts of Evelyn and Michael Jones

Cooke [Phelps Studio] (American)

Blue Face Jug with Horns, 2001
Clay, glazed, 9 1/2" x 9 1/2" x 8 1/2"
Gift of Evelyn and Michael Jones

Copus [Phelps Studio] (American)

Untitled Face Vase, 1999
Clay, glazed, 14 3/8" x 6 1/4" x 7 1/2"
Gift of Evelyn and Michael Jones

Judith Cutler (American, b. 1940)

Morning Sun on Gourds, 2002
Pastel on paper, 12 1/4" x 18"
Gift of the artist in honor of her parents, Lois G. and Paul G. Bergman

Lynn Davison (American, b. 1943)

Male Figure Crouching, 1996
Lithograph, 17 1/8" x 12 5/8"
Untitled, 1998
Oil on paper, 11 1/4" x 15 1/8"
Gifts of the Frank and Margaret Sullivan Fund

Julio de Diego (American, b. Spain, 1900 - 1979)

Untitled [Young Woman with Guitar], n.d.
Watercolor and pencil on paper, 13 1/4" x 8"
Gift of the Frank and Margaret Sullivan Fund

Ian Dickman (American)

Blue Face Jug with Green Tongue, 1999
Clay, glazed, 11" x 6 1/2" x 8"
Untitled Laughing Face Jug, 1999
Clay, glazed, 7 3/4" x 5 1/2" x 6 1/2"
Gifts of Evelyn and Michael Jones

John H. Foote, Jr. (American, 1921 - 1968)

Untitled, 1949
Engraving, 13" x 8 3/4"
Gift of the Frank and Margaret Sullivan Fund

Edward J. Glannon (American, 1911 - 1992)

Sawbuck, 1957
Oil on Masonite, 20" x 24"
Untitled, [Dead Pine Tree], 1969
Watercolor on paper, 13 3/4" x 21"
Untitled Landscape, c. 1967
Watercolor on paper, 5 3/8" x 7 7/8"
Gifts of the Edward J. Glannon Family

Daniel C. Helsel (American, b. 1934)

Russian Samovar, 2007
Oil on canvas, 18" x 23 3/4"
SAMA Purchase

Arny Karl (American, b. Italy, 1940 - 2000)

Full Moon, n.d.
Pastel on paper, 7 1/4" x 10 1/4"
Gift of the Frank and Margaret Sullivan Fund

Terry and Anna Krug (American)

Brown Face Jug with Frog, ca. 1998
Clay, glazed, 14 1/2" x 10" x 9 1/4"
Gift of Evelyn and Michael Jones

Clare Leighton (American, b. England, 1899 - 1989)

Down in the Train to Mostar, n.d.
Wood engraving, 6 1/4" x 7 1/2", 68/75
Gift of the Frank and Margaret Sullivan Fund



Donald M. Robinson
Silent Return, 1960



Judith Cutler
Morning Sun on Gourds, 2002



Edward J. Glannon
Untitled, [Dead Pine Tree], 1969



Ralph Welsh III
Beside My Studio #15, 2007



Arny Karl
Full Moon, n.d.



Judith Counsel Vipond
Choices, 2003



Julio de Diego
Untitled [Young Woman with Guitar], n.d.



George Wesley Bellows
The Drunk (Second Stone), 1923-24



Sica
Saint Francis Dancing, 2007

Leslie Allen Lerner (American, 1949 - 2005)

A Woman Found Him Dead in the Hacienda Yard with a Dog Biting His Pants Leg. She Kept the Dog., 1991
Charcoal on paper mounted on rag board, 13 7/8" x 13 7/8"
Gift of the Frank and Margaret Sullivan Fund

Larry R. Mallory (American, b. 1949)

All Alone, 1974
Offset lithograph, 18 1/2" x 24"
SAMA Purchase for the Education Collection

Claude and Vicki Miller (American)

"Fat Jaw" Devil Face Jug, 1998
Clay, glazed, 14 1/2" x 8" dia.
Gift of Evelyn and Michael Jones

Tom and Seth Phelps (American)

Face Jug with "Yoda" Ears, 1998
Clay, glazed, 15 1/4" x 13 1/2" x 7 1/4"
Gift of Evelyn and Michael Jones

Donald M. Robinson (American, b. 1925)

104 various photographs, 1960-2008
Epson, Kodak, Canvas and Fuji digital prints
Gifts of the artist

Gordon Russell (American, 1932 - 1985)

The Accident, 1951
Oil on canvas, 72" x 60"
Gift of James Caminiti

Paul Russo (American, b. 1954)

Dandy, 2007
Latex caulk and acrylic on canvas, 10" x 8"
Gift of the artist

Jack Sexton and Grace Carr (American)

Untitled Face Jug with Cigar, 1999
Clay, glazed, 8 3/4" x 7 1/2" x 7 1/4"
Gift of Evelyn and Michael Jones

Sica (American)

Saint Francis Dancing, 2007
Mixed media, 20 1/2" x 30 3/4"
Gift of the artist

Judith Counsel Vipond (American, b. 1937)

Choices, 2003
Mixed media on canvas, 30" x 40"
Gift of Donald M. Robinson
Early Frost, 2007
Mixed media on canvas, 36" x 60" [diptych]
Origins II, 2002
Mixed media on canvas, 30" x 40"
Gifts of the artist

Ralph Welsh III (American)

Beside My Studio #15, 2007
Oil on canvas board, 24" x 30"
Gift of the artist

Gerald P. Wolf (American, b. 1925)

Samibel, 2004
Pastel on paper, 14" x 19"
Gift of the artist



Gary Bukovnik
Harmony in Blue and Green, 1985



Donald M. Robinson
Peyto Lake, Canadian Rockies, 1991

ARTS-IN-EDUCATION



A patient creates a watercolor painting through the Arts for Healing program.



Rostered artist Jenni Bateman teaches children the finer points of abstract art during the Altoona Museum's summer art camp.



Children work on designs for puppets they will create through SAMA-Ligonier Valley's art camp.

Every year, the Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art puts an emphasis on its education programs. From in-school Arts-in-Education programs to in-museum endeavors such as the *Artists of the 21st Century* student art exhibition, the Museum is able to reach approximately 10,000 students throughout Bedford, Blair, Cambria, Fayette, Somerset and Westmoreland counties.

As part of its in-school education programs, SAMA offers Arts-in-Education (AIE) and Artist-in-Residence (AIR) programs to public and private schools throughout the Museum's six county region. Last year, more than 6,000 students in 50 schools spanning 26 districts were served through the two initiatives. AIE programs, facilitated by SAMA education staff, provide children with exposure to works from the Museum's permanent collection, as well as lessons emphasizing art creation, technique, history, criticism and aesthetics. Through the AIR program, held in conjunction with the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts (PCA), professional artists visit schools for lengthy residencies in which they work side-by-side with students, allowing for mutual involvement in the creative process. The Museum's artist roster currently includes 33 artists in a wide variety of disciplines, including painters, dancers, musicians, playwrights, fiber artists, architects and videographers. Sculptor Peter Frantz was added to SAMA's artist directory in 2008.

Another facet of the Museum's increasing education programs is its *Arts for Healing* program, which brings professional artists into nursing homes, health care facilities and community centers to work with patients in programs designed to alleviate pain and suffering caused by numerous health afflictions or advancing age. Over the past year, SAMA conducted *Arts for Healing* residencies at four facilities, reaching out to more than 250 patients. In 2008, SAMA offered its first Humanities-in-Residence programs, through which scholars visit schools or community organizations to facilitate presentations designed to bring to life the region's rich culture and heritage. SAMA's rostered scholars can speak on a wide variety of topics, including folk and traditional arts, poetry, literature, environmental issues, American and regional history, immigration, women's issues, world religions, mass media, and many more.



SAMA Educator Hattie Lehman brings original works from the Museum's permanent collection into the classroom through the Arts-in-Education program.



Mikaela Hornberger (center) was regional champion in the national Poetry Out Loud competition. She was congratulated by SAMA Board member Ieva Grimm (far left) and SAMA Executive Director G. Gary Moyer (far right), along with Bellwood-Antis Academic Principal Tom Otto and High School Principal Diane Williams.

SAMA's in-museum education programs serve an integral role in the community. Each spring, artwork by hundreds of local students is hung at the Ligonier Valley and Loretto facilities for the annual *Artists of the 21st Century* student art exhibition. Designed to coincide with National Youth Art Month and the State Arts-in-Education Month, the exhibitions provide an opportunity for children to see their work professionally hung in a museum setting, accompanied by full museum text panels. Receptions celebrating the exhibitions' openings are also held, providing children with a sense of pride as their family and friends view their work in a museum gallery. Hundreds of students also tour SAMA's four facilities as part of the Arts-in-Education program. In the summer, art camps are held at the Altoona and Ligonier Valley museums. This past summer, rostered artist Jenni Bateman taught Altoona children about abstract art, while children in the Ligonier Valley participated in *The Art of Puppet Theatre* camp, facilitated by rostered artist Laura Opshinsky of We're Holden Puppets.

SAMA's education programs were featured in the news over the past year. Mikaela Hornberger, a 10th-grade student at Bellwood-Antis High School in Tyrone, was the regional champion of *Poetry Out Loud*, a national poetry recitation contest sponsored by the PCA, National Endowment for the Arts, and the Poetry Foundation. As regional champion, Mikaela was invited to the state finals held at the Governor's Mansion in Harrisburg. She finished in the top five for Pennsylvania, and had an opportunity to meet Gov. Ed Rendell. In May, SAMA, along with several other PCA AIE Partners, hosted a two-day resident artist conference and retreat at Antiochian Village, located just outside of Ligonier. The event, attended by dozens of artists and educators from throughout Pennsylvania, focused on artist residency techniques and aspects of being a professional teaching artist. Laura Reeder, founding executive director of Partners for Arts Education, was the event's keynote speaker.



Larry R. Mallory's *All Alone* was acquired into SAMA's Education Collection in 2008.



A young artist poses with her artwork at the opening reception for SAMA-Ligonier Valley's *Artists of the 21st Century*.



SAMA directory artist Marianne McAuliffe (right) teaches the art of flute playing to PCA rostered visual artist Phyllis Disher Fredericks at the artist retreat at Antiochian Village.



Rostered artist Kathy Reed teaches the art of papercutting to first grade students through the Artist-in-Residence program.



A student stands with directory artist Tom McCarty by artwork at SAMA-Loretto's *Artists of the 21st Century* student art exhibition opening reception.



High school students examine works during a tour of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Council on the Arts' 12th Annual Regional Juried Exhibition at SAMA-Ligonier Valley.

Fundraisers

SAMA kicked off its 2008 fundraisers in June with the seventh annual Garden Party at the Ligonier Valley Museum. The stage was set for an incredible event with the Museum's exhibition, *Portraits of the Eastern Frontier*. With some of the country's preeminent historical artists in attendance, more than 250 guests came out to make it the most successful Garden Party to date. The party, which had the distinction of being a Signature Event of the Ligonier 250 Celebration, began inside the Museum gallery with a champagne reception with nationally-acclaimed artists Robert Griffing, John Buxton and Chas Fagan, as well as local artists J.A. Cooper, Rita Haldeman and Mark Seraly. Following the reception, guests made their way to the Museum's lawn for cocktails, hors d'oeuvres and a gourmet dinner. The Silent Auction featured hundreds of antiques, collectibles and garden accessories, as well as exclusive items such as a limited edition autographed Robert Griffing print, an original oil painting by Rita Haldeman and a vacation for six at historic Williamsburg. The Garden Party was chaired by Charles A. Fagan III, Stephanie Fagan and Bonnie M. Hoffman. The Silent Auction was chaired by Sue Kiren, Connie Pilz and Helen Thorne.

In July, the Museum's Gala celebrated "30 Sun-Sational Years." A black-and-white color scheme, augmented by thousands of striking sunflowers, provided for an elegant and exiting evening. Marked by several new features, including a new location directly outside the Loretto Museum on the Saint Francis University campus mall, Gala Chair Kit Benzel did a remarkable job honoring Galas past while setting forth a strong precedent for the future. During the Gala, Director *Emeritus* Michael M. Strueber was honored for his dedication, creativity and vision in establishing the first Gala thirty years ago. Since that time, the Gala has evolved into the signature event for the Museum, and this year's event was a fine testament to that legacy. Guests were treated to three international food stations, featuring delectable Brazilian, Greek and Thai cuisine, with each station also featuring its own unique wine pairings. The silent auction was among the most diverse and impressive in years, featuring items such as a 2006 Chrysler Crossfire LCD Roadster, several motorcycles and ATVs, original works of art by Michael M. Strueber, Joe Servello, Donald M. Robinson and Colleen Browning, and a Pittsburgh Steelers jersey autographed by Hines Ward.

SAMA's 2008 fundraisers closed out in style in November with the Altoona Museum's *The Art of Wine and Fashion*. Chaired by Jonna Bryan, the sixth annual fashion show event provided for a night of high fashion and fine dining set in a sophisticated and electric ambience. The event was held simultaneously at the Altoona Museum and next door at The Columns, and featured cocktails, buffet dinner and dancing. Kevin Charles Fine Clothing for Men & Women provided a spectacular style show, and throughout the evening guests had an opportunity to sample various vintage and collector wines at a wine kiosk. A silent auction featured a variety of artwork, fine wines and other collectibles. One highlight of the night was the Jewelry Jamboree Give-Away, with three lucky guests taking home diamond rings and pendants donated by Kranich's Jewelers and Precious Metals and Diamond Company.





The Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art would like to thank all of our patrons, businesses and individuals who support the Museum through its annual General Operating Campaign, as well as gifts and donations.

FOUNDATION GRANTS

Community Foundation for the Alleghenies
Community Foundation of
Westmoreland County
The Donald and Sylvia Robinson
Family Foundation
Eden Hall Foundation
Emma Clyde Hodges Memorial Fund
The Grable Foundation
Greater Altoona Jewish Federation
Henry L. Hillman Foundation
Laurel Valley Visitors Bureau
Ligonier Valley Endowment Fund
McKenna Foundation
Robert S. Waters Charitable Trust
Summit Foundation
Thoburn Foundation for Education
Wallace P. Hough Charitable Trust
The Weyandt Foundation
Wolf-Kuhn Foundation

GOVERNMENT GRANTS

Pennsylvania Council on the Arts
Arts-in-Education Partnership Program
Artist-in-Residence Program
General Operating Support
Picture Pennsylvania Exhibition
Poetry Out Loud

EDUCATION IMPROVEMENT TAX CREDIT (EITC) PROGRAM

C&G Savings Bank
Central PA Community Foundation
Gingrich Agency, Inc.
L. Robert Kimball & Assoc.
Leonard S. Fiore, Inc.
New Enterprise Stone & Lime Co.
The PNC Financial Group

SPECIAL GIFTS

In honor of Betty Gamble

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Cook

In honor of Ruth Hill

Dr. and Mrs. Ruediger Kratz

In honor of Barbara Hollander

Dr. and Mrs. Mark Lipitz

In honor of Dr. Scott Little

Dr. Dalton Blough

In honor of Donald Robinson

Mrs. Barbara Rackoff

In honor of Madelon Sheedy

Ms. Kathleen Zimmerman

In memory of Jonna Bryan

Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Sky
Mr. and Mrs. Joel Hollander

In memory of Jane Ann Cavalieri

Ms. Evalyn Antenucci
Ms. Jean Cannistraci
Ms. Shirley Fedeli
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Finkel
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Ms. Judy Marsden
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Ms. DJ Rhoads
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Mrs. Gloria Sandler
Ms. Maxine Schube
Mr. and Mrs. Jay Shapiro and Family
Ms. Anne Mae Widney

In memory of Dr. Harold R. Cottle

Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Belloch
Mr. and Mrs. David Halpern
Healthcare Administrative Partners, LLC
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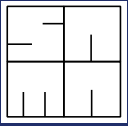
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