

Exhibit Opens

With about 200 artists and art lovers present, the creative energy was close to critical mass on Saturday evening in the Southern Alleghenies Museum of Art at Ligonier Valley. The occasion was the opening of the 17th Annual Regional Juried Art Exhibition of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Council for the Arts Inc.

On display through Feb. 10, the exhibition showcases works by 73 of the best and brightest artists from the commonwealth's 19 southwestern counties.

Top honors included third place to **Hsiao Busch** of Plumville for "Fragments," a mixed-media piece; second place to **John Ritter** of Ligonier for "Mistress's Daughter," a commercial light box/digital photograph; and first place to **Richard McWherter** of Derry for "Carolina Morning," an archival pigment photograph on cotton.

Juror was **Roberta K. Tarbell**, an adjunct associate professor in the University of Delaware College of Arts and Sciences.

Connoisseurs and creators on hand included SAMA Director **Gary Moyer** with **Susan**, Ligonier museum manager and coordinator **Sommer Toffle**, **Madelon Sheedy**, **Sue Kiren**, **Bill and Bonnie Hoffman**, **Bill Lightcap**, **Mary Beth Landis**, **Don and Doreen Currie**, **Sue Pollins**, **Jerry and Heidi McClure**, **Jack and Doris Wood** and **Benjamin Thomas**.

Also, **Bob and Arlene Kendra**, **Anita Manoli**, **George and Michelle Toohey**, **Ronald Nigro**, **Jeffrey Rouse**, **Patricia Dickun**, **Jaime Cooper**, **Bob and Fran Lynch**, **Robert Newell**, **Lee Klingenberg**, **Dianne Bauman**, **Julie Engelmann**, **Jim and Marianne Kozak** and **Stuart Thompson**.

— *Shirley McMarlin*



KIM STEPINSKY | FOR THE TRIBUNE-REVIEW

Bonnie Hoffman, Southwestern Pennsylvania Council for the Arts Inc. treasurer, joins first-prize recipient **Richard McWherter** of Derry. Behind them is his prize-winning archival pigment photograph on cotton, "Carolina Morning."

RICHARD S. McWHERTER

www.richardmcwherter.com

