

**For Immediate Release**  
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## **New Light: The Pennsylvania Impressionists,** Highlights from the Woodmere Art Museum Collection

February 7 – May 22, 2016

**Harrisburg, PA** – Susquehanna Art Museum (SAM) is pleased to announce the upcoming exhibition: ***New Light: The Pennsylvania Impressionists, Highlights from the Woodmere Art Museum Collection*** in the main gallery of the Museum. SAM members will be treated to a private members-only preview on Saturday, February 6, 2016 from 5 – 7 pm; the exhibition will open to the general public on Sunday, February 7 and remain on view through Sunday, May 22, 2016.

The collection of paintings included in the Pennsylvania Impressionism exhibition represent the largest loan of this collection by the Woodmere Art Museum (Philadelphia) to date. The artists included in the exhibition are men and women, native Pennsylvanians and immigrants newly settled in the United States. While many Americans are familiar with the genre of painting known as “Impressionism” popular in late 19<sup>th</sup> Century Europe by notable artists such as Renoir, Degas, and Monet, Pennsylvania’s brand of Impressionism came somewhat later, starting at the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century and continuing for several decades. The Pennsylvania Impressionists hailed predominantly from Bucks County and the Delaware River Valley; this geography became the subject matter for many of the *plein air* paintings these artists would create. These artists embodied the American pioneer spirit with a love for the land and keen observations of the natural world.

Bill Viola, Director of the Woodmere Art Museum commented on this exhibition at SAM:

*“... On a regular basis, Woodmere’s galleries offer unique opportunities to understand Pennsylvania Impressionism as it relates to 19th-century American landscape painting and to the work of important Philadelphia painters who were connected to the Hudson River movement... Pennsylvania Impressionism represents one of the unique strengths of Woodmere’s collections, and we are honored that the Susquehanna Art Museum will be shining new light on these great cultural treasures of Pennsylvania.”*

The Susquehanna Art Museum is a cultural anchor for the Central Pennsylvania community, located in historic Midtown Harrisburg. Through innovative and engaging exhibitions and experiences for visitors of all ages, SAM inspires life-long learning and community building, both within the walls of the museum and throughout the wider community. Located at 1401 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street in Harrisburg, SAM is open Tues. through Sat. from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., and Sun. from 12 p.m. – 5 p.m.

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