



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 1/3/12**

Contact: Michael French  
Marketing & Public Relations Coordinator  
Southern Utah University  
College of Performing & Visual Arts  
(435) 865-8667  
michaelfrench@suu.edu

**SUU'S BRAITHWAITE FINE ARTS GALLERY  
TO SHOWCASE "SUMA – THE PREVIEW"  
JANUARY 12 – FEBRUARY 4, 2012**

**Southern Utah University, Cedar City, UT:** As Southern Utah University continues its fundraising efforts for "The Future Is Rising" campaign, the campus' **Braithwaite Fine Arts Gallery** is throwing the spotlight onto one of the campaign's most prestigious projects – the **Southern Utah Museum of Art (SUMA)**. Beginning on **January 12, 2012**, the Braithwaite will host a unique exhibition entitled **SUMA – The Preview**, which will provide an overview of the museum from inspiration through concept to a representation of the facility and its galleries. The exhibition is made possible by the generous support of **Rainbow Sign and Banner**. Running through **February 4, 2012**, the exhibition will be **free and open to the public Tuesday through Saturdays, noon to 7:00 p.m.** The gallery is located on the **lower level of the Braithwaite Liberal Arts Center on the SUU campus.**

Beginning with its inspiration drawn from the work of beloved regional artist and Cedar City native Jim Jones, the exhibition provides patrons with insight into Jones' desire to have an art museum in southern Utah and how SUU became the location. The show will depict the various aspects into the development of SUMA from community input to building awareness (SUMA Community Engagement Committee) and fundraising efforts (SUU Advancement and the Friends of the Braithwaite Fine Arts Gallery). There will be early architectural renderings, floor plans, samples of the building's exterior and interior surfaces, and some fully realized depictions of SUMA's interior.

A special highlight of the exhibition will showcase SUMA's five galleries with art representational of the work that will be displayed in the venues. The museum's feature gallery, the Rocki Alice Gallery, will house traveling exhibitions; the Braithwaite Gallery will spotlight the work of regional artists; the Austin M.

and Magda Jones will be a flexible space, the Digital Gallery will feature electronic works, and, of course, the Jim Jones Gallery will showcase paintings created by the late artist for SUMA.

Two special evenings are planned by the SUMA Community Engagement Committee (SCEC) during the exhibition's run. On two Thursdays, January 19 and 26, 2012, "Community Nights" will feature docents throughout the exhibition to answer questions about the museum, fundraising efforts and volunteerism. These events will be held from 3-7pm on the two afternoon/evenings and are free and open to the public.

As SUMA will be the first fully accredited museum to be staffed primarily by graduate (Arts Administration) and undergraduate (Museum Studies) students mentored by professionals, the exhibition will spotlight this unique aspect. This exhibition will be designed by graduate student Ernesto Perez.

Rainbow Sign and Banner is a full-service shop that offers in-house services from design to installation. We are honored to support the Southern Utah Community. Our designs are innovative and have received national recognition. Our experience will guarantee the right substrate for the application, indoors or out.

Learn more about this exciting cultural attraction that will be contribute to making Cedar City and southern Utah a resort destination for art lovers. Do not miss SUMA – The Preview.

## **ABOUT THE COLLEGE**

The **Southern Utah University College of Performing and Visual Arts** is comprised of nationally accredited departments of Art and Design, Music, Theatre Arts and Dance, as well as a graduate program in Arts Administration. The College offers 16 different degree areas, including liberal arts Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science degrees; professional Bachelor of Music and Bachelor of Fine Arts in art and theatre degrees; and a Master of Fine Arts in Arts Administration degree. More than 60 full- and part-time faculty and staff are engaged in teaching and mentoring over 550 majors in the College. Over 1100 students enroll each year in over 195 arts classes on the SUU campus. The College presents 100 performances, lectures, presentations, and exhibitions each year. The College's affiliate organizations include the Braithwaite Fine Arts Gallery, American Folk Ballet, Utah Shakespeare Festival, and the SUU Ballroom Dance Company. For more information about the College of Performing and Visual Arts, contact the Office of the Dean at (435) 865-8561, or by e-mail at [cpvamktg@suu.edu](mailto:cpvamktg@suu.edu).

## **FOR CALENDAR EDITORS: SUMA – The Preview**

**WHAT:** The Braithwaite Fine Arts Gallery will host a unique exhibition entitled "SUMA – The Previews," which will provide an overview of the museum from inspiration through concept to a representation of the facility and its galleries.

**WHO:** Braithwaite Fine Arts Gallery

**WHEN:** January 12 – February 4, 2012

**TIME:** Tuesday - Saturday, Noon to 7:00 p.m.

**WHERE:** Braithwaite Liberal Arts Center, lower level,  
Southern Utah University, Cedar City, UT

**PRICES:** Free and the General Public is encouraged to attend.

**MORE INFO:** <http://www.suu.edu/pva/artgallery/> or (435) 586-5432