



## DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Economic Development Division

### Urbana Public Arts Program Monthly Progress Report

March 9<sup>th</sup> – April 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2017

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#### Introduction

The following Urbana Public Arts Program Monthly Progress Report describes activities of the Public Arts Program for the Urbana Public Arts Commission. The report includes information regarding projects which are in progress, recent requests and recommendations from the public, staff activities, and upcoming events.

#### Updates on Current Projects

- **Artist of the Corridor:** The current show features the art of Rusty Clevenger's 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Students at Dr. Preston L. Williams Jr. Elementary School. On March 31<sup>st</sup>, two groups of classes came in to see their artwork displayed in the City Building where they also had a brief question and answer session with Mayor Prussing. The opening reception for the public will be held on Friday, April 28<sup>th</sup> from 5:00pm to 6:30pm. Rusty's exhibition will continue through June.

Staff is currently seeking recommendations for future exhibitions for the Artist of the Corridor.

- **Art Now:** In April, Art Now highlights the work of Guen Montgomery and her printmaking. Episodes are aired on UPTV 6 every Monday at 6:30 pm, with reruns every Tuesday at 11:00 pm, and are available on YouTube.

Staff is currently seeking recommendations for future artists for Art Now.

- **Urbana Sculpture Project:** A web-based, downloadable sculpture guide is now available for download on the city website at [urbanaininois.us/sculptures](http://urbanaininois.us/sculptures). Postcard-sized flyers are also being distributed to promote the new sculptures throughout the city.
- **Open Scene:** Three Artists have held weekend intensives at the IMC with youth and young adult participants. These events included Beat Making with Derek Linzy, Storytelling with Andrea Perkins, and Hip-Hop with Mother Nature. The final artist workshop is scheduled for this weekend and will feature theatrical performance and discussion by Hill L. Waters and Lisa Fay. This weekend's public events will take place on Friday, April 14<sup>th</sup> from 6pm to 8pm and Sunday, April 16<sup>th</sup> from 2pm to 4pm at the Urbana-Champaign Independent Media Center (UCIMC). Also, please note that the final Open Scene event is forthcoming.



# ART NOW



- **Boneyard Celebration:** The 2017 Boneyard Celebration on Saturday, April 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017 featured Fish Painting, a performance by the C4A children's choir, a walking puppet show by Anne Newman, and bubble making programming for children.
- **Marketing:** The program's Facebook, Twitter and Instagram accounts now have 1,394 page likes (an increase of 62 likes), 1,902 followers (an increase of 22 followers); and 448 followers (an increase of 35 followers), respectively from last month. There are two Urbana Public Arts Program ads featured on SmilePolitely.com, which promote Art Now and the 2017 Boneyard Arts Celebration.
- **Urbana Arts Grants Program:** An announcement celebration for the recipients of this year's grant will be held on Friday, April 21<sup>st</sup> at Pizza M from 5pm to 7pm.

With the support of the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies (CLACS) and Katie & Leon Harrell, 30 grantees will receive a total of \$48,500 in funding this cycle. A full list of recipients is available at [www.urbanaininois.us/artsgrants](http://www.urbanaininois.us/artsgrants).

- **Public Arts Coordinator Position:** The City's Public Service Commission has approved 27 candidates for further consideration in the hiring process.