



DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Economic Development Division

Urbana Public Arts Program Monthly Progress Report 2nd Tuesday of the Month– April 10th, 2018

Prepared by Rachel Lauren Storm, Public Arts Coordinator

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 that are in progress, recent requests and recommendations from the public, staff activities, and upcoming events.

Updates on Current Projects

- **Urbana Arts Grants:** In this tenth funding cycle, 45 applications were received requesting more than \$127,479. With \$47,500 available, the Urbana Arts Grants Program was able to fund 35 projects for the 2018 cycle. Three orientations have been offered to grant recipients that included detailed advice about successful project planning, a timeline for project completion, and support from the Urbana Public Arts Program as a sponsor. Projects are already underway.
- **SNEEK PEEK:** The Urbana Public Arts Program is celebrating the announcement of this year's 2018 Urbana Arts Grantees and Arts in the Schools recipients with *SNEEK PEEK*, a public reception held at Broadway Food Hall on Thursday, April 26th from 5:30pm-7:30pm featuring live music, hors d'oeuvres, and a presentation of the 2018 grant recipients.
- **Artist of the Corridor:** The current Artist of the Corridor exhibition on display at the City of Urbana building and Urbana Free Library, *THE STORY OF MY LIFE* by Dodee Buzzard, will have an opening reception on Friday, April 13th from 12pm-1pm in conjunction with Boneyard Arts Festival. Dodee Buzzard, a local watercolorist, is celebrating her 99th birthday during her opening reception. The public is invited to a celebration of her art and birthday! *THE STORY OF MY LIFE* is a collection of watercolor paintings inspired by Mrs. Buzzard's life and her love of gardening, travel, and her family.
- **Art Now:** March's edition of Art Now features local watercolorist and current Artist of the Corridor, Dodee Buzzard. Episodes appear on UPTV 6 every Monday at 6:30 pm, with reruns every Tuesday at 11:00 pm, and are available on YouTube. View their episode on UPTV6's YouTube channel at https://youtu.be/uj6wQ_W7wFg. The next Art Now episodes will feature Preetika Rajgariah (May), Cynthia Oliver (June), and Jim O'Brien (July).
- **Art at the Market/Art IN the Square:** In partnership with the Urbana Business Association, the Public Arts Program continues to offer "Art IN the Square" as part of the indoor farmer's market. Our April 14th program will feature a performance from local musical group, Los Guapos. Los Guapos is an instrumental quartet performing cumbia, salsa, and son montuno styles from Central and South America. They are influenced by the music of Arsenio Rodríguez, Mongo Santamaría, Orlando "Cachaito" López, Marc Ribot, and Los Destellos. To learn more about their music, visit <http://los-guapos.tumblr.com/>. The event will also feature short demonstrations from the Capoeira Angola Center and Hybrid Performance Arts in conjunction with Boneyard Arts Festival.

- **Urbana Celebrates the Boneyard:** On Saturday, April 14th from 1pm-5pm, the Urbana Public Arts Program will continue its annual tradition of offering family-friendly arts programming for the Boneyard Arts Festival activities in Urbana. “Urbana Celebrates the Boneyard” will offer musical and dance performances from Dance Music Therapy and the Department of Dance at the University of Illinois, as well as magic and flow arts from Michael Moxie and Satina. The event will include a bubble display, face painting, puppet performance, and art stations offering arts and crafts for the whole family.
- **The Young Artist’s Studio:** Urbana Public Arts Program continues to with the Urbana Free Library for the Young Artist’s Studio series, featuring arts workshops for area youth. The March 11th workshop featured local artist Kari Anderson leading a “Perler Bead Art” workshop. The April 15th workshop features Navajo artist Beverly Smith leading a “Navajo Storytelling through Art” workshop inviting youth to hear a story (Baje Whitethorne’s *Sunpainters*) followed by guided art-making with their own stories. All workshops are held 3pm-3:45pm in the Urbana Free Library’s Children’s Library (lower level).
- **Boneyard Arts Festival Urbana Committee:** The Boneyard Arts Festival is a county-wide celebration of the arts! Local artists partner with local businesses and organizations to create stunning displays, performances, and collaborations. The Urbana Public Arts Program, in addition to sponsoring the Art in the Square and Urbana Celebrates the Boneyard events, encourages the public to engage in the arts all weekend long. Download a guide to activities here at 40 North’s website: <http://40north.org/programs/boneyard>.
- **#ArtinUrbana Campaign:** The Urbana Public Arts Program #ArtinUrbana continues to seek submissions. Instagram users are invited to tag photos of local Urbana creativity.
- **Volunteer and Intern Report:** The Urbana Public Arts Program is proud to announce a new Public Arts Intern, Madelyn Talbert, a student intern placed with the program through the University of Illinois’ Community Learning Lab. Madelyn, a freshman in Media and Cinema Studies, will assist the Public Arts Program with marketing, events coordination, and social media engagement. The Public Arts Program continues to seek new volunteers. Those interested in volunteering with the Urbana Public Arts Program can sign up at: https://www.urbanainillinois.us/arts_support.