



## DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Economic Development Division

### Urbana Public Arts Program Monthly Progress Report 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the Month– February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018

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

#### Updates on Current Projects

- **Urbana Arts Grants:** The Urbana Arts Grants applications are currently being solicited. The deadline for application submittal is February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018 by 5:00PM. The 2018 Guidelines and Application are available for download on the City website at: [www.urbanainillinois.us/artsgrants](http://www.urbanainillinois.us/artsgrants).
- **Grants Workshops:** Public Arts Coordinator, Rachel Storm, presented workshops to increase awareness of the Urbana Arts Grant program and the elements of a strong application at the School of Art and Design at the University of Illinois, Independent Media Center in Downtown Urbana, Urbana Free Library, Parkland Giertz Gallery, and Spurlock Museum.
- **Artist of the Corridor:** The current Artist of the Corridor exhibition on display at the City of Urbana building and Urbana Free Library is entitled HAUNTED HAMS by Lydia Puddicombe. HAUNTED HAMS is a collection of wood-carved illustrations exploring the whimsical, domestic lives (and afterlives) of plants & animals. To view more of Lydia Puddicombe's work, visit: [www.lydiapuddicombe.com](http://www.lydiapuddicombe.com). The opening reception, held on January 29<sup>th</sup>, was well-attended and featured brief remarks from Mayor Marlin. The closing reception, scheduled for March 26<sup>th</sup> at 7pm, will be a family-friendly celebration featuring art stations, an artist's talk, artist show and tell, and guest appearances from the artists' muses: two guinea pigs named Neville and Tonk. Refreshments and art supplies will be provided.
- **Art Now:** February's edition of Art Now features local theater-maker, Latrelle Bright. Episodes appear on UPTV 6 every Monday at 6:30 pm, with reruns every Tuesday at 11:00 pm, and are available on YouTube. For more information or to view Latrelle's work, visit: [www.latrellebright.com](http://www.latrellebright.com). View her episode on UPTV6's YouTube channel at <https://goo.gl/FQytDF>. The next Art Now episodes will feature Dance Music Therapy (March), and Dodee Buzzard (April).
- **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. Remaining Art IN the Square dates are March 10<sup>th</sup> and April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturdays of the month. Urbana Arts Program staff will appear on WCIA's CiLiving with UBA staff to promote Art IN the Square activities and performances.
- **The Young Artist's Studio:** Urbana Public Arts Program is partnering with the Urbana Free Library to kick-off a new initiative, Young Artist's Studio, that will feature arts workshops for area youth. The first workshop, "Recycled Fashion with local designer, Ja Nelle Davenport-

Pleasure” occurred on February 11<sup>th</sup> from 3pm-3:45pm in the Children’s Library. Remaining spring 2018 dates include Mar 11<sup>th</sup> and Apr 15<sup>th</sup> (3pm-3:45pm).

- **Artist Spotlight:** The Urbana Public Arts Program intern staff has assisted with the creation of a new column in the Public i newspaper, a publication produced through the Independent Media Center. The column, entitled “Artist Spotlight” features an in-depth interview with a local artist each month. February’s newspaper, which will have a release later this month, will feature local photographer, Nika Lucks. The next Artist Spotlight interviews will feature performance artist Mark Enslin (March) and illustrator Charlotte Prieu (April).
- **Boneyard Arts Festival Urbana Committee:** The Public Arts Coordinator represents the City of Urbana on the Boneyard Arts Festival Urbana Planning Committee which works to solicit festival participation from local venues, businesses, and artists. Boneyard Arts Festival is a unique 3-day exhibition of performance, literary and visual art hosted in a wide variety of venues -- from private businesses to public spaces -- all around Champaign County, Illinois. Through the festival, artists and venues of all kinds come together to collaborate on shows, registering their participation with 40 North, which then highlights their creativity. Urbana days are April 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>. Interested artists or business owners can register their venue or activities at: <http://40north.org/programs/boneyard>.
- **Urbana Celebrates the Boneyard:** Planning is also underway for the annual Urbana Celebrates the Boneyard event held at Boneyard Creek Crossing. The event will feature musical performances, art stations, and creative fun for the whole family. Save the date for Saturday, April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018.
- **Social Media Engagement:** The Facebook page has increased in followers by eighteen (18) since the last monthly report, for a total of 1,686 followers. Twitter and Instagram have not experienced an increase and remain at a total of 1,989 and 616 followers.
- **#ArtinUrbana Campaign:** The Urbana Public Arts Program #ArtinUrbana continues to seek submissions. Instagram users are invited to tag photos of local Urbana creativity.
- **Volunteer Program Initiative:** 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.urbanainllinois.us/arts\\_support](https://www.urbanainllinois.us/arts_support).