



DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Economic Development Division

Urbana Public Arts Program Monthly Progress Report December 9th – January 5th, 2016

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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 landscape paintings and drawings by Lori Fuller. The opening reception was on December 14th from 5:00pm to 6:30pm, and attended by approximately 25 people.



- **Art Now:** In January, Art Now highlights local nonprofit Public Art League (PAL), including interviews with PAL board member Eric Robeson, PAL supporter Ginny Waaler, and local sculptor Michael Collins. Episodes are aired every Monday at 6:30pm, with reruns every Tuesday at 11:00pm, and are available on YouTube. The February episode will feature visual artist Lara Jobe.
- **Urbana Sculpture Project:** Staff is working to promote these sculptures by creating a web-based guide. Postcard-sized flyers will be produced to promote the webpage.
- **Open Scene:** Four artists have been selected to lead weekend intensives at the IMC with youth and adult participants. These weekend intensives will include arts workshops, dialogues, and public showcases, to explore a theme of social justice and/or community development through an artistic discipline. They will take place between late February and April 2017.

- **Boneyard Celebration:** Citispace can no longer perform the proposed “Unity Project” at the Boneyard Creek Crossing in April 2017. Staff will arrange a different event at this location as part of the annual Boneyard Arts Festival.
- **Marketing:** The program’s Facebook, Twitter and Instagram accounts now have 1,306 page likes (an increase of 14 likes), 1,846 followers (an increase of 6 followers); and 383 followers (an increase of 18 followers), respectively. There are two Urbana Public Arts Program ads featured on SmilePolitely.com, which promote Art Now and the Urbana Arts Grants Program.
- **Urbana Arts Grants Program:** The application guidelines and form was published on November 3rd, 2016, and the deadline to apply is February 6th, 2017. With the support of the Center for Latin American and Caribbean Studies (CLACS), the total amount available for funding this cycle is \$48,000.

The Urbana Arts Grants Program has been promoted through social media, the e-newsletter, a SmilePolitely ad, and print materials. Staff held two separate information sessions at the University of Illinois and the Urbana-Champaign Independent Media Center. A total of about 20 people attended.

