



DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Economic Development Division

Urbana Public Arts Program Monthly Progress Report 2nd Tuesday of the Month– October 23rd, 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 Art Expo:** The Urbana Art Expo (September 14th-16th, 2018 at the Urbana Civic Center) featured the work of 17 artists, live musical performances, and arts demos. Featured artists include: Bekki Canine, Carolina Rodriguez, Cindy Sampson, Drea Aarons, EKAH, Erica Rae Stark, Esther Roh, Fraya Replinger, Kelly Hieronymus, Kirsten Gilmore, Lynn Hawkinson Smith, Marc-Anthony Macon, Marie Casteel, Megan Hinds, Ralph Roether, Sekani Reed, & Sierra Murphy. Over
- **Open Scene Open Mic:** The Urbana Public Arts Program and Urbana-Champaign Independent Media Center have moved to a monthly schedule for Open Scene Open Mic, a series of open mic events hosted throughout Downtown. The next scheduled open mic will take place on **November 14th, 2018 at Urbana-Champaign Independent Media Center** featuring host, DJ Silkee and an IMC Open House.
- **Art Now:** October's edition of [Art Now](#) features Susan Parenti, local storyteller and founder of The School for Designing a Society in Urbana. A joint production by the [Urbana Public Arts Program](#) and [Urbana Public Television](#), Art Now airs at 6:15pm every Monday on UPTV6, re-runs at 11pm on Tuesdays, and online on the [UPTV6 Youtube Channel](#). To learn more about Susan Parenti and the School for Designing a Society work, visit: <http://www.designingasociety.net/>.
- **Artist of the Corridor:** The current Artist of the Corridor exhibition on display is *LOOMED BEADWORK* by Judie Spencer, a collection of beadweaving art exploring pattern, landscapes, and design. The exhibit will be on display through the end of October at The Urbana Free Library and City of Urbana Building as part of the Artist of the Corridor Series. The exhibition included an opening reception at the City of Urbana on October 3rd, 2018 and will have a closing reception on October 25th, 2018 from 6:30pm-8pm at The Urbana Free Library.
- **Art at the Market:** Art at the Market, in partnership with Urbana's Market at the Square, occurs every 2nd Saturday of the month during the farmers market season. October's Art

at the Market activities include a workshop from Weiskamp Screenprinting and performance from Hot Club of Urbana performing experimental jazz on October 13th, 2018, followed by Market at the Scare on October 27th, 2018 from 8am-12pm.

Market at the Scare, a celebration of fall and Halloween, will feature a wide array of family-friendly activities organized through the Urbana Public Arts Program including: spooky stories with the Urbana Free Library, fall games, a pop-up photo booth, trick-or-treating at vendor booths, face painting, paper crafts, etc. The featured workshop will be a Make-A-Monster craft with Melissa's Monsters and haunted tunes from Urbana Pops Orchestra from 9:30am-11:30am. Members of Spread the Magic from Illinois State University and the University of Illinois' Star Wars Club will be volunteering in cosplay as character greeters and activity volunteers.

- **The Young Artist's Studio:** The Young Artist Studio series presented by the Urbana Public Arts Program and The Urbana Free Library features youth arts workshops every 3rd Sunday of the month. The September 30th workshop featured a "Puppet-Making Workshop" with local artist and theater composer, Mark Enslin. The October 21st workshop features local artist Gayathri Menokee leading a "Zentangle for Kids" activity. All workshops are held 3pm-3:45pm in the Urbana Free Library's Children's Library (lower level).
- **Urbana Sculpture Project:** The Urbana Public Arts Program selected two sculptures for installation in Urbana: *Races* by Bobby Joe Scribner and *Ice Pops* by Craig Gray. *Ice Pops* by Craig Gray was installed in Boneyard Creek Crossing on October 8th featuring a ribbon-cutting with Mayor Diane Wolfe Marlin, a brief talk from the artist, and activities for youth in attendance. *Races* by Bobby Joe Scribner will be installed at the corner of Race and Green Sts. in The Urbana Free Library's corner lot, along the Illinois Marathon route. The Urbana Free Library's Foundation Board has promised a financial contribution towards landscaping to assist in showcasing the sculpture. In addition, staff renewed *Three Red Houses* in Boneyard Creek Crossing. *A New Leaf* was not renewed, but has been purchased and will be installed in Champaign.
- **Social Media Engagement:** The Facebook page has increased in followers by 37 since the last report, for a total of 1,938 followers. Twitter experiences an increase of 0 followers for a total of 2,002. The Instagram page has increased by 44 followers for a total of 939 followers.
- **Volunteer Support:** Public Arts Commissioners and the public are encouraged to get involved with the Urbana Public Arts Program's ongoing events and initiatives. Those interested in volunteering with the Urbana Public Arts Program can join planning efforts or sign up to volunteer at: https://www.urbanaininois.us/arts_support.