



DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Economic Development Division

Urbana Public Arts Program Monthly Progress Report

2nd Tuesday of the Month– September 11th, 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 is scheduled for September 14th-16th, 2018 at the Urbana Civic Center (108 E. Water Street) in Urbana. The Urbana Art Expo is a two-day juried fine art exhibition and sale, presented by the Urbana Public Arts Program and 40 North Champaign County Arts Council featuring 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. For more information, visit: www.urbanaartexpo.com or www.urbanaininois.us/artexpo. Volunteers are needed to support the Expo. Those interested in volunteering should sign-up with the Public Arts Coordinator.
- **Open Scene Open Mic:** The Urbana Public Arts Program and Urbana-Champaign Independent Media Center are jointly organizing Open Scene Open Mic, a series of open mic events hosted throughout Downtown Urbana with the goal of continuing to grow Open Scene, the program initiated last year with the support of a National Endowment for the Arts Our Town Grant. The next scheduled open mic will take place on **September 26th, 5:30-7:30pm at Urbana Dance Company** featuring host, Kate Insolia with a Performance Showcase.
- **Art Now:** September's edition of [Art Now](#) features Susan Parenti, local storyteller and steward of the Randolph Street Community Garden. 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 *SCENES OF DOWNTOWN* by Christopher Evans and is a collection of illustrated works exploring Downtown Urbana. Our next exhibition, *BELONGING*, shares stories from

local immigrants through photographs of items that reflect their unique experiences with migration and community. Through artifact, memory, and reflection, *BELONGING* shares the diverse experiences of immigrants who call Urbana-Champaign home. The exhibit will be on display from Sept. 17th-28th at The Urbana Free Library and City of Urbana Building as part of the Artist of the Corridor Series and in conjunction with Immigrant Welcome Week. The exhibition reception will be held at the Immigrant Welcome Awards Ceremony and Celebration on Saturday, Sept. 22nd from 3:30pm-5pm at The Urbana Free Library, sponsored CU Immigration Forum with support from C-U FAIR, The Urbana Free Library, University YMCA New American Welcome Center, the Channing Murray Foundation, the City of Champaign, and the City of Urbana.

- **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. The September's Art at the Market activities includes recycled art with the I.D.E.A. Store, a nonprofit organization that fosters creativity, environmental stewardship, education, and community through creative reuse. From 9:30am-11:30am, patrons will enjoy a performance from local musician, Sororise. Sororise performs experimental folk music with soaring melodies. Learn more at: <https://www.facebook.com/sororise/>.
- **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 August 19th workshop featured "Stained Glass Kites" with Sierra Murphy. The September 30th workshop offers a "Puppet-Making Workshop" with local artist and theater composer, Mark Enslin. 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. Public Arts staff are working closely with the Public Art League to plan for the installation of both pieces. *Ice Pops* will be installed in Boneyard Creek Crossing and staff are working on a location along the Illinois Marathon route for *Races*. Staff renewed *Three Red Houses* in Boneyard Creek Crossing. A ribbon-cutting in conjunction with each installation will be announced.
- **Social Media Engagement:** The Facebook page has increased in followers by 58 since the last report, for a total of 1,901 followers. Twitter experiences an increase of 0 followers for a total of 2,002. The Instagram page has increased by 19 followers for a total of 895 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.urbanainllinois.us/arts_support.