



DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Economic Development Division

Urbana Public Arts Program Monthly Progress Report

March 4 – April 6, 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

- **Urbana Arts Grants Program:** A reception to celebrate the 2016 Urbana Arts grantees will be held at Pizza M on Friday, April 15th, from 5:00pm to 7:00pm. The recipients will be announced at 5:45 p.m.
- **Artist of the Corridor:** Peggy Flavin's exhibition, "A Long Way Down," is currently featured in the lobby of the City Building and The Urbana Free Library until early June. Flavin is a mixed-media artist and student at the University of Illinois. An opening reception was held Friday, April 1st from 5pm to 6:30pm in the City Building Lobby, and the exhibition has been registered to be a part of the Boneyard Arts Festival by 40 North.



- **Urbana Celebrates the Boneyard:** Staff is currently planning *Urbana Celebrates the Boneyard 2016*, which will take place on Saturday, April 9, from 1:00pm to 4:00pm, at the Boneyard Creek Improvements Project (corner of Race and Griggs Streets). This event has been registered for 40 North's Boneyard Arts Festival. The festivities will include music by Desafinado from 1:00pm to 2:30pm, a Capoeira performance by Capoeira Angola Center Illinois from 2:30pm to 4:00pm, a bubble demo by Joyful Bubbles from 1:30pm to 3:30pm, and a scavenger hunt designed by Urbana artist Judiee. Visitors who complete the scavenger hunt will receive a small prize made by Judiee herself. In addition, three food trucks will park nearby and new banners featuring artworks by students from the Urbana School District #116 will be on view on light poles surrounding the park.



- **Art at the Market:** Staff has reviewed and selected six music groups and six visual artists for the 2016 Art at the Market, an initiative that presents free arts programming at the farmers market. This season, Art at the Market will be on every second Saturday, from May to October. Staff is working with Market Director to promote this program.
- **Fundraising:** Staff was notified by the National Endowment of the Arts that its proposed project, titled *Open Scene*, which was submitted in collaboration with UCIMC, has been recommended for funding through the Our Town grant program. This was not the NEA's official notice, and additional materials will need to be submitted before the funding can be secured.

Urbana Public Arts Program is not among the selected recipients of the 2016 Art Works grant program. Staff submitted an application to Art Works in partnership with Public Art League, which proposed to bring a site-specific installation to the Boneyard Creek Improvements Project.

- **Art Now!:** In March, Art Now highlighted Hua Nian, a painter and educator whose work has appeared in international and national exhibitions, winning awards at local, state and national shows. In the April episode, John Morrison interviewed artist Dennis Rowan, who primarily makes whimsical and surreal collages. All Art Now episodes can be found online on the Art Now YouTube channel or <http://www.urbanaininois.us/artnow>.



- **Marketing:** Staff continues to update the program's Facebook, Twitter and Instagram accounts, which now have 1,085 fans, 1,648 followers, and 121 followers, respectively. There is currently one ad featured on SmilePolitely.com, which promotes Artist of the Corridor.