



DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Economic Development Division

Urbana Public Arts Program Monthly Progress Report

October 5 - November 3, 2011

Prepared by Christina McClelland, Public Arts Coordinator

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 process, recent requests and recommendations from the public, staff activities, and upcoming events.

Update on Current Projects

- **Boneyard Beautification Project:** Jack Mackie is working with the design team, completing a schematic design and moving toward final designs for public art in the project.
- **Urbana Arts Grants Program:** 2011 projects are in progress. 2012 grant cycle guidelines & applications were released on October 28, are due January 10, 2012.
- **Royer Arts & Architecture District:** The sign has been delivered, and City staff is working with County staff to schedule installation.
- **Art in the Schools:** The subcommittee and staff are in the process of doing further research to develop an Art in the Schools program.
- **Downtown Arts:** The Downtown Arts subcommittee and staff are in the process of researching potential new Downtown Arts initiatives.
- **Fundraising:** Staff is researching feasibility of strategies utilizing existing fundraising systems.
- **Marketing Subcommittee:** The Marketing Subcommittee is in the process of distributing the list of Urbana-Champaign area art classes, also available online.
- **Outreach:** Over 70 people attended Champaign County ARTS CONNECT: pARTner Up! on October 13, 2011. A wide variety of local arts organizations were represented, and there was strong interest in future events to bring the local arts community together.
- **Art at the Market:** The final Art at the Market workshop, "Natural Paint Postcards" with Jessica Roberts was held on October 29, 2011 with over 80 participants. Staff is planning next season's Art at the Market workshops.
- **Art Now!:** The new episode for November is an interview with artist Ann Coddington Rast.
- **Artist of the Corridor:** Will Arnold's show, "It's Not Those Things," is on display through the end of November, and has been covered in articles in The News-Gazette and Smile Politely.
- **Marketing:** Staff is regularly updating the Facebook and Twitter accounts, which each have 398 fans and 123 followers. An e-mail newsletter was sent to 408 subscribers on October 28.
- **Conferences:** Staff attended two conferences in Chicago from October 20-22, 2011, the Alliance for Artist Communities annual conference and the Alliance for Independent Art Organizers inaugural conference.

Upcoming Events

- Public Arts Commission Meeting: Tuesday, November 8, 2011 at 4:30 PM in the Council Chambers.
- Next month's meeting: Tuesday, December 13, 2011 at 4:30 PM in the Council Chambers.