



DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Economic Development Division

Urbana Public Arts Program Monthly Progress Report

December 7, 2011 – February 6, 2012

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

Update on Current Projects

- **Boneyard Creek Public Art:** Staff presented ideas for additional Boneyard public art enhancements, including the wall tile and stone markers for the Broadway Bridge, to the Champaign County Design and Conservation Foundation on February 6.
- **Urbana Arts Grants Program:** 52 applications for 2012 Urbana Arts Grants were received. Juries are meeting on February 4 and 19 to review the applications, and recommendations will be presented at the March meeting.
- **Royer Arts & Architecture District:** If you missed the dedication ceremony for the Champaign County Courthouse Commemorative sign, on-demand video may be accessed at <http://urbanaininois.us/residents/urbana-public-television/video-demand/royer-sign-dedication>.
- **Marketing Subcommittee:** The Marketing Subcommittee met to develop a marketing plan for 2012 on January 26, 2012.
- **Martin Luther King, Jr. Park Project Subcommittee:** The RFQ was released on January 26, with guidelines and application available at <http://www.urbanaininois.us/artsopportunities>. Submissions are due by March 14, 2012 at 5:00 PM.
- **Downtown Arts Planning:** Staff is conducting research on downtown arts projects, including vinyl window art and projecting video art/short films onto the exterior of downtown buildings.
- **Outreach:** Staff served as a judge for 40 North and Adam's Outdoor Advertising's SKY GALLERY project, which features local artists' work on area billboards. Staff is also involved in the Urbana planning committee for the 2012 Boneyard Arts Festival, to be held April 19-22, 2012.
- **Art Now!:** January's episode featured painter Bonnie Switzer. Scenic designer Tom Korder and choreographer Jean Korder are interviewed in February's episode.
- **Art at the Market:** A proposal for additional Market music and performance programming to be coordinated by the Public Arts Coordinator was approved by City Council on February 6 as part of that position becoming full-time. There will be a follow up Memo to the Public Arts Commission for the March Meeting on this increased arts programming at the Market.
- **Artist of the Corridor:** Rosalind Faiman Weinberg's work was on display through the end of January. The current show features paintings by Betsem Benjamin and Wiley Elementary third and fifth graders, to be exhibited through April 30. On February 15 a reception will be held from 4-5 PM.
- **Marketing:** Staff is regularly updating the Facebook and Twitter accounts, with 415 fans and 195 followers, respectively. An e-mail newsletter was sent to 415 subscribers on January 9 and 31, 2012. The design for the promotional postcard is included in the packet.

Upcoming Events

- Next month's meeting: Tuesday, March 13, 2011, 4:30 PM in the Executive Conference Room.