



DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Economic Development Division

Urbana Public Arts Program Monthly Progress Report June 8, 2013 – August 7, 2013

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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

- **Martin Luther King, Jr. Park Project:** The addendum to the design development agreement with Preston Jackson commissioning his design was approved by City Council on June 17. Mr. Jackson has been hard at work on fabricating the sculpture. See attached photos.
- **Boneyard Creek Public Art:** Jack Mackie visited Urbana in early July to visit the project site and meet with the construction and engineering team.
- **Fundraising subcommittee:** The subcommittee met on May 28 to plan for the Keep It or Change It campaign, to be launched in early September.
- **Urbana Arts Grants subcommittee:** Urbana Arts Grant applications for 2014 are planned to be released in late September and be due in early December. The Wufoo form system used for the Murals on Glass call will be utilized to facilitate the online application.
- **Murals on Glass:** Twenty-nine possible images were submitted in response to the latest call for artists for Murals on Glass. The jury met on August 6, 2013 to review them. Their recommendations will be discussed during the Old Business portion of the meeting.
- **Art Now!:** July's episode featured the Station Theatre's production of *Evil Dead*, the Musical. Host Greg Chew interviewed director Mikel Matthews and music director Aaron Kaplan. In August's episode, Greg Chew interviews director Stephen Fiol, Music Director Aaron Kaplan, Choreographer Whitney Havice, and actor Kyle Pollio of the August 2013 Champaign-Urbana Theater Company production of *Les Misérables*. See episodes at: <http://www.urbanaininois.us/artnow>.
- **Artist of the Corridor:** The current Artist of the Corridor show is *From the Surface* by Steve Kostell, featuring dimensional handmade paper forms cast from the surfaces of public spaces. The work will be on display through October 31, 2013.
- **Art at the Market:** The June Art at the Market event, featuring the T-Shirt to Tote Bag workshop with Makerspace Urbana and music by Los Guapos, was attended by 105 people. The July Art at the Market event, featuring CD Weaving with Kathryn Fitzgerald and music by The Turinos, was attended by 168 people. The August 17 Art at the Market event will feature a Letterpress printmaking workshop with Soybean Press and music by Ryan Groff of Elsinore. The full schedule of this summer's Art at the Market events is available at: <http://www.urbanaininois.us/artworkshops>
- **Marketing:** Staff is regularly updating Facebook and Twitter accounts, with 627 fans

and 746 followers, respectively. E-mail newsletters were sent to 529 subscribers on June 7, 20, and 29; July 12; and August 2.

- **Grants:** Staff has not yet been notified of the status of the application for FY13-14 general operating support in the local arts agency category from the Illinois Arts Council. Staff served as a reviewer for 55 applications from throughout the state in Visual Arts program grant category for FY14.
- **Local Arts Agency:** Staff attended a Local Arts Agency (LAA) retreat and workshop day on Monday, July 29 in Chicago held by the Illinois Arts Council and Arts Alliance Illinois. Two speakers presented on diversity and strategic planning for Local Arts Agencies and representatives from throughout the state discussed programming for the next several years.
- **Public Arts Intern:** YooJin Hong has been assisting the Urbana Public Arts Program as the summer Public Arts Intern.
- **Public Arts Coordinator:** Christina McClelland has accepted a position as Public Arts Program Coordinator for the City and County of Denver, CO. Her last day will be August 29, 2013.

Upcoming Events

- August meeting: Tuesday, August 13, 2013, 4:30 PM in the Council Chambers.
- September meeting: Tuesday, September 10, 2013, 4:30 PM in the Council Chambers.

Photos:



Preston Jackson at work on the King Park sculpture.



Springtail wall element in the Boneyard Creek Beautification project.



Sedge and Springtail wall liners.