

Urbana Land Arts Project Evaluation

Grant Fund Utilization and Accomplishments: The Creative Mix Grant (CMG) funds were instrumental in the development and implementation of Inter-Urban and were used to support visiting artists in terms of food, transportation, and material. Urbana Land Arts was able to supplement the CMG with in kind support from the local non-profit Heartland Pathways which provided fabrication space and material. In addition, a second grant was awarded to one member of the artist team from the Herberger Institute of Arizona State University for the sum of \$5000.00 furthering the collaborative nature of the project.

Organizational Impact: Urbana Land Arts seeks to continue its efforts to produce projects that engage with Landscape issues and create a nuanced sense of place for participants and the public through artful inquiry and intervention. Inter-Urban was ULA's first step into realizing the goal of creating an artist's residency program and the success of Inter-Urban, in terms of hosting and assembling an artist team, allowed ULA to get closer to that goal. ULA was also able to strengthen its relationship to Heartland Pathways by creating activity within its organization and helping to make visible the contentious property issues surrounding its rail road right of way.

Participants and collaborators: Christopher Carl (Urbana, IL), Sutton Demlong (Phoenix, AZ), Paul Howe (Greensboro, N.C.), and Bobby Zokaites (Phoenix, AZ) composed the artist team. The Inter-Urban team was supported by David Monk (Champaign, IL) and Dave Bourchard of (Bondville, IL) and the documentary film duo Bryan Dematteis and Anna Minx (St. Louis, Mo.). The first installation of the Inter-Urban took place on a contentious section of rail road right-of-way in Amenia, Illinois and was attended by a small assemblage of the public due to its relatively remote but conceptually significant location. The second installation took place during the Boneyard Arts Festival and was situated on Springfield Ave. Urbana and persisted for an additional six weeks. The exhibition was attended by 25 people and resulted in the sculpture finding a new home in Lierman Neighborhood Community Garden in fall 2013.

Collaborative Experience: Increasingly artists and designers are finding it a necessity to collaborate in order to accomplish ambitious projects that require an array of skill sets and operate with a limited budget. The artist team assembled for Inter-Urban was an example of the potential for that mode of working and is a model for further project development. The Inter-Urban was an intensive five week period in which the artist team lived and worked closely together completely immersed in the project at hand. Expectations were high and it is safe to say that the team was at least satisfied with the result of the hard work.

Addition: Urbana Land Arts would like to thank the Urbana Arts Commission and its coordinator Christina McClelland for all the hard work and dedication to furthering the arts in Urbana and particularly the support for Urbana Land Arts. We most certainly would not be dreaming in the direction that we do without the warm and welcoming atmosphere that Urbana provides to artists and creative ventures. Thank You.