



## *DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES*

### *Economic Development Division*

## **Urbana Public Arts Program Monthly Progress Report**

**August 13, 2014 – September 9, 2014**

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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.

### **Updates on Current Projects**

- **Urbana Arts Grants Program:** The process has been started to hire an intern for the Fall and Winter 2014 (Oct-early January) with the goal to have the intern work heavily on the grants program (presentations to the community, creating forms, working on the grants database, managing the application process). Staff is continuing to work with IT to streamline the grant application process and move it to our website. Staff is also continuing to work with IT on a comprehensive database on the City website of all grant projects from 2009-present.
- **Boneyard Creek Public Art:** The final invoice from Jack Mackie was submitted for payment at the end of August as he was satisfied with the production and installation of the public art component of the Boneyard project. Planning for a Spring opening and activities will be underway.
- **Fundraising:** We are in the middle of drafting a foundation agreement between the Community Foundation of East Illinois and the Urbana Public Arts Program and working on possible fundraising ideas for Citizeninvestor.
- **Marketing:** Staff is regularly updating Facebook and Twitter accounts, with 732 fans and 1,156 followers, respectively. Staff has also been promoting various Urbana Arts Grants Projects through social media and various press contacts.
- **Downtown Arts subcommittee:** The Downtown Arts subcommittee is in the process of reviewing three new sculptures for 2014-16 for the Urbana sculpture program. The call ended on September 5<sup>th</sup>. In other updates for downtown sculpture:
  - Asteray by Nicole Beck was installed on August 20<sup>th</sup> at the corner of Cedar and Green.
  - Fortitude was deinstalled the week of August 18<sup>th</sup>.
  - The Wind in the Trees (outside of Cinema Gallery) will be deinstalled September 20<sup>th</sup>
  - Stranger Reduction Zone will be installed October 31.

- **Art at the Market:** The final Art at the Market for 2014 will be on September 13 with an art workshop creating Nature Mobiles with Traci Pines and a performance with local favorites The Curses with their unique blend of gritty old-school Rock & Roll tinged with Americana, Blues and Honky Tonk flavors.
- **Artist of the Corridor:** The current exhibition of self-taught artist Jill Stroberger will be up through November 2. The next exhibition (November-end of January 2015), will feature the watercolors of Carol Diss Farnum.
- **Art Now!:** In the September episode, Savoy painter Barbara McDonnell was profiled. See episodes at: <http://www.urbanillinois.us/artnow>.

### **Upcoming Events**

- Summer Movie Night- Friday, September 12 at 8pm- Up!