



DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Economic Development Division

Urbana Public Arts Program Monthly Progress Report

July 8 – August 4, 2016

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

Updates on Current Projects

- **Artist of the Corridor:** Judy Lee's exhibition, "Mini Masterpainters" is on view in the lobby of the City Building and The Urbana Free Library until September 12th. To date, four of the artworks displayed have sold to visitors of the City Building.

The next show will feature Rachel Storm's photography work, which will be installed on September 13th.

- **Art at the Market:** July's Art at the Market, with music by Bones Jugs and a workshop by Karissa McDermott, was well-attended. The next Art at the Market, to be held Saturday, August 13th, will feature music by Los Guapos from 9:30am to 11:30am; and "T-shirts into Totebags", a workshop by Makerspace, from 8:00am to 12:00pm. This will be during National Farmers Market Week.



- **Art Now:** In July, Art Now featured Lynn Smith. For the August episode, Commissioner Sara Jones interviewed Michael Owen Thomas. All Art Now episodes can be found online on the Art Now YouTube channel or <http://www.urbanaininois.us/artnow>.
- **Urbana Art Expo:** Staff and commissioners are working with 40 North to plan the next Urbana Art Expo (www.urbanartaexpo.com), which will be on Sunday, September 18, from 10am to 5pm, at the Urbana Civic Center. The deadline to apply has been extended to Monday, August 8.

Staff is seeking additional support from the community, and has reached out to several local businesses. Pizza M has agreed to be an in-kind sponsor.

- **Urbana Sculpture Project:** Three sculptures were chosen by the sculpture working group, out of the Public Art League's 15 selected pieces: *The Three Red Houses*, *A New Leaf* and *Monolith*. Mike Hosier will again sponsor a sculpture that will be placed in Urbana. Staff is working with Public Works and PAL to plan for their installation.
- **Marketing:** The program's Facebook, Twitter and Instagram accounts now have 1,218 page likes (an increase of 20 likes), 1,766 followers (an increase of 17 followers); and 259 followers (an increase of 21 followers), respectively. There are three Urbana Public Arts Program ads featured on SmilePolitely.com, which promote the Urbana Art Expo, Artist of the Corridor, and Michael Owen Thomas' Art Now episode.



- **Arts in the Schools:** The guideline for this grant program will be published on August 12. Up to \$3,000 is available to fund art education projects in Urbana School District #116.
- **Fundraising:** In September, Common Ground Food Co-Op will accept nominations for their Round Up for Good initiative. Staff encourages commissioners and friends of the Urbana Public Arts Program who are also members of the Co-Op to nominate the Urbana Public Arts Program.