



## DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Economic Development Division

### Urbana Public Arts Program Monthly Progress Report 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the Month– December 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017

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

#### Updates on Current Projects

- **Staff Update:** Public Arts Intern Samantha Schrage has completed her internship. She will give a brief presentation of her internship accomplishments, including marketing and social media, “Artist Spotlights,” and assistance in Urbana Art Expo planning.
- **Urbana Arts Grants:** The Urbana Arts Grants applications will be made available this week on our website. The deadline is set for February 16<sup>th</sup>, 2018 by 5:00PM.
- **Grants Workshops:** Public Arts Coordinator, Rachel Storm, has presented workshops to increase awareness of the Urbana Arts Grant program and the elements of a strong application at the School of Art and Design at the University of Illinois and Independent Media Center in Downtown Urbana. The next workshop will take place on December 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm at the Urbana Free Library in the Lewis Auditorium (lower level). Workshops have been well-attended.
- **Arts in Schools:** The Urbana Public Arts Program finalized agreements between our three Arts in the Schools grantees: Roberta Westerman for her “Outdoor Arts Classroom” proposal at Urbana High School; Capoeira Angola Center for their “Capoeira Angola 4 Kids” proposal benefitting multiple elementary schools and Urbana Middle School; and Derek Linzy for his “Essentials in Beat-Making and Recording” proposal benefitting Urbana High School. Projects will begin January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018.
- **Murals on Glass:** Beth Darling and Kelly Hieronymus, selected artists for our 4<sup>th</sup> cycle of Murals on Glass, were recently featured on WCIA’s Morning Show to discuss their work. The artists will be featured alongside of the Public Arts Coordinator in the next issue of *Buzz Magazine*. The following receptions and ribbon-cuttings have been scheduled:
  - **Reception and Ribbon-Cutting for “South Farm No. 9”**  
January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018 from 12pm-1pm at Phillips Recreation Center
  - **Reception and Ribbon-Cutting for “Hosta Takeover”**  
January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2018 from 12pm-1pm at the City of UrbanaBeth Darling’s “Hosta Takeover” appears at the City of Urbana’s City Building front windows and Kelly Hieronymus’ “South Farm No. 9” appears on the front windows of the Urbana Park District’s Phillips Recreation Center.
- **Urbana Art Expo:** The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Urbana Art Expo was well-received and featured 17 local artists, boasted nearly 400 attendees, and received support from 12 volunteers. The Expo

generated \$688 to support the Urbana Public Arts Program and publicity for local artists and the Urbana Public Arts Program through print features in Smile Politely and the Daily Illini, as well as two television features on WCIA Channel 3 and coverage from UPTV6. Artists appear on Urbana Art Expo website and social media pages.

- **Art Now:** December's edition of Art Now features local artist Mimi Thi Nguyen. Episodes appear on UPTV 6 every Monday at 6:30 pm, with reruns every Tuesday at 11:00 pm, and are available on YouTube. See more of Mimi's work at <http://mimithinguyen.com/home.html>. View her episode on UPTV6's YouTube channel. The next Art Now episodes will feature Liza Sylvestre (January), Latrelle Bright (February), Dance Music Therapy (March), and Dodee Buzzard (April).
- **Art at the Market/Art in the Square:** In partnership with the Urbana Business Association, the Public Arts Program continues to offer "Art IN the Square" as part of the indoor farmer's market. The most recent Art IN the Square (Dec. 9<sup>th</sup>) featured paper crafts and a performance from Community Center for the Arts (C4A).
- **Artist of the Corridor:** The current exhibition, *TEXTILES*, features textile work from Lara Orr and Jill Miller (joint exhibition) and is on display from through the end of December. Both artists spoke to the public at the Urbana Free Library's Auditorium on December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017 from 7pm-8pm. The event featured a short talk, Q & A, refreshments, and concurrent arts activities for families in attendance.
- **The Young Artist's Studio** Urbana Public Arts Program in partnering with the Urbana Free Library to kick-off a new initiative, Young Artist's Studio, that will feature arts workshops for area youth. Spring dates include Feb 11<sup>th</sup>, Mar 11<sup>th</sup>, and Apr 15<sup>th</sup> (3pm-3:45pm).
- **Social Media Engagement:** The Facebook page has increased in followers by 31 since the last monthly report, for a total of 1,657 followers. Twitter has increased by 3 for a total of 1,985 followers. Instagram has increased by 34 for a total of 591 followers.
- **#ArtinUrbana Campaign:** The Urbana Public Arts Program #ArtinUrbana continues to seek submissions. Instagram users are invited to tag photos of local Urbana creativity.
- **Volunteer Program Initiative:** The Public Arts Program continues to seek new volunteers. Those interested in volunteering with the Urbana Public Arts Program can [sign-up here](#).
- **Selected/Invited Juries** The Public Arts Coordinator has been invited to serve as a juror in two upcoming arts shows:
  - Fine Arts Show, Eastern Illinois University
  - Extreme Entrepreneurial Competition, University of Illinois