



DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Economic Development Division

Urbana Public Arts Program Monthly Progress Report

April 6th - June 3rd, 2010

Prepared by Anna Hochhalter, Public Arts Coordinator

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

- Gallery District Incentive Program—continued inquiries and business participation. Art Gallery Bike Tour on June 5th included many of the galleries in downtown Urbana. See flier attached for more information.
- Urbana Arts Grants Program—Most of the 2009 Projects have been completed. Final Reports are being received and reviewed. Attached are reports from Karen Vaccaro, the Asian American Cultural Center, and Kathryn Fitzgerald. 2010 Projects are underway and some have been completed. Agreements are being finalized with grantees.
- Arts Lecture Series—The event entitled, ART WORK: A National Conversation about Art, Labor, and Economics, was held on May 1st, at the Urbana Free Library Auditorium. Approximately 40 members of the public participated in discussion about the state of the arts in Urbana and in the U.S.
- Staff presented the Annual Public Arts Program review and proposed the FY10-11 Program Plan to the Mayor and Urbana City Council on May 10th. The proposed FY10-11 Program Plan was approved on May 17th, 2010.
- Urbana Sculpture Project—Three sculptures were successfully installed in May and June. They included the following works of art which will be on display for a two year period:
 - *Prism Arc VI* by Carl Billingsley on the corner of Philo Road and Colorado Avenue.
 - *Bench 9* by Barry Hehemann on Green Street and Cedar Street, adjacent to the Urbana Free Library.
 - *Landing* by Cecilia Lueza on the corner of Philo Road and Florida Avenue.
- Art at the Market: Art Workshops—The City launched the first Art at the Market art workshops on Saturday, May 29th. This was the first in a series of monthly workshops that will take place on the last Saturday of each month during Urbana's Market at the Square. The workshops for the 2010 season will explore issues related to "art and the environment". Artists to lead the workshops have been scheduled for the season. Additional information can be found on-line at: <http://www.urbanaininois.us/artworkshops>
- City Building Exhibit Space—The new Artist of the Corridor exhibit by Betsem Benjamin was installed on June 3rd and will be on display until August 2nd for a two month period. Seven artists submitted letters of interest and images of their work which were reviewed by Mayor Prussing. Because of the level of interest, the exhibit periods have been changed from three months to two months so that more artwork can be displayed each year. Staff is planning an opening reception for the exhibit in June. More information is forthcoming. Artists interested in exhibiting in the City Building should submit a letter of interest, resume, and digital images of artwork to Anna Hochhalter at alhochhalter@city.urbana.il.us

- UPTV Arts Program—the subcommittee is working with UPTV staff Jason Liggett in launching the program this month. Pat Sammann has scheduled interviews with three artists, the first of which will take place on June 9th with Roger Blakley. Sarah Ross has provided video templates for the show.
- Program Grants—staff submitted a grant to the Illinois Arts Council Program Grant program for general operating support.
- Marketing: The City launched its new website: www.urbanaininois.us The direct link to the Public Arts Program is: www.urbanaininois.us/arts Staff is regularly updating the Facebook page which has 272 fans. Staff is also updating the Arts Guide and the Public Arts Program brochure.
- Projects with Partners:
 - 40 North | 88 West Board of Directors and Committees
 - Martin Luther King Jr. Public Art Project in King Park with Urbana Park District
 - Urbana Business Association

Upcoming Events

- Public Arts Commission Meeting date: July 13, 4:30 PM.