



DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Economic Development Division

Urbana Public Arts Program Monthly Progress Report February 1-28, 2011

Prepared by Christina McClelland, 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

- Urbana Arts Grants Program: 2009 and 2010 projects are being completed and reported. The Urbana Business Association approved three projects for Business Backs the Arts funding. Final 2011 Urbana Arts Grants recommendations will be brought to the Commission for approval during the March meeting.
- City Building Exhibit Space: Hua Nian is the current Artist of the Corridor. Her work will be on display from February 2 – March 31, with a closing from 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM on Tuesday, March 22. Photographer Cheryl Manrique will be the Artist of the Corridor for April and May 2011.
- *Art Now!* UPTV Arts Program: The program continues to run on UPTV each Monday from 6:30pm – 7:00pm. Commission members Sarah Ross and Pat Sammann have interviewed the following artists in 2011: Kate Kuper, Don Lake, Toni Putnam, and Heather Ault. Videos of the interviews can be viewed on-line at: <http://www.urbanaininois.us/artnow>.
- Marketing: Staff is regularly updating the Facebook page which has 337 fans and averages 88 page visits a month. Staff has also started an Urbana Public Arts Twitter, which can be followed @urbanapublicart, and has started exploring MailChimp, a free service, to streamline the e-mail newsletter. The graphic design class marketing project has been delayed due to department faculty searches, but staff will be meeting with University professors Jimmy Luu and Jennifer Gunji-Ballsrud next week to get the project underway.
- Staff has submitted a Statement of Interest for a National Endowment for the Arts Our Town Grant to fund a mosaic or pathway project for the Boneyard Creek Improvements Project. Following review of statements the NEA will notify selected organizations that they have been invited to submit a formal application by March 25, 2011.
- The Illinois Arts Council has awarded the Urbana Public Arts Program a Public Art Program operating support grant of \$1,750. This award must be used by August 31, 2011.

Upcoming Events

- Public Arts Commission Meeting date: March 8, 4:30 PM in the Executive Conference room (take elevator to the right of City Council Chambers entrance to the second floor).
- Boneyard Creek Improvements Project Public Meeting, March 15, 2011 from 6:00-8:00 PM at the Urbana Civic Center with Public Art Public Meeting from 8:00 PM to 10:00 PM.