



DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Economic Development Division

Urbana Public Arts Program Monthly Progress Report

March 8, 2012 – April 3, 2012

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

- **Martin Luther King, Jr. Park Project Subcommittee:** 45 submissions were received for the RFQ. A selection panel will convene on April 11 or 12.
- **Urbana Arts Grants Program:** The twenty-seven 2012 Urbana Arts Grants recipients are entering into agreement with the City and beginning their projects. Over 50 people attended the 2012 Urbana Arts Grants Announcement Celebration at Buvons Wine Bar.
- **Boneyard Creek Public Art:** Jack Mackie continues to compile final costs and complete final designs for the additional enhancements funded by the CCDC donation.
- **Downtown Arts Planning:** Staff has been following up on questions related to the artist-designed adhesive vinyl for the parking deck.
- **Urbana Sculpture Project:** Staff and the Downtown Arts subcommittee are working with the Public Art League (PAL) to develop a tree-themed Call for Sculpture for downtown Urbana and to select sculpture for Philo from an existing PAL call.
- **Outreach:** Staff is involved in the Urbana planning committee for the 2012 Boneyard Arts Festival, to be held April 19-22, 2012.
- **Art Now!:** The April episode features an interview with mixed media collage artist Michael Willet.
- **Arts Programming at the Market:** Staff is working on booking artists and performers for the 2012 Market season.
- **Artist of the Corridor:** The current show features paintings by Betsem Benjamin and Wiley Elementary third and fifth graders, to be exhibited through April 30. The exhibit will be included as a venue for the 2012 Boneyard Arts Festival. Judy Jones will be the featured artist starting in May.
- **Marketing:** Staff is regularly updating Facebook and Twitter accounts, with 431 fans and 245 followers, respectively. An e-mail newsletter was sent to 415 subscribers on March 13, March 27, and April 2. The new postcard and brochure are being distributed to area businesses and organizations.
- **Grants:** Staff applied for a 2013 Illinois Arts Council Visual Arts Program Grant for general operating support that was due on March 15, 2012.

Upcoming Events

- April meeting: Tuesday, April 10, 2012, 4:30 PM in the Council Chambers.
- May meeting: Tuesday, May 8, 2012, 4:30 PM in the Council Chambers.