



## *DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES*

### *Economic Development Division*

## **Urbana Public Arts Program Monthly Progress Report March 11, 2014 – April 8, 2014**

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

### **Update on Current Projects**

- **Martin Luther King, Jr. Park Project:** The sculpture dedication is to take place on Saturday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2014 at 4:00pm. A reception at Cinema Gallery will follow.
- **Urbana Arts Grants Program:** A reception to celebrate the 2014 Urbana Arts Grants Program awardees was held at Pizza M in Urbana on April 3, 2014.
- **Boneyard Creek Public Art:** Jack Mackie is working with the design team and contractors as the last phase of the project progresses towards completion this summer.
- **Fundraising:** Nothing new to report on fundraising at this time.
- **Marketing subcommittee:** The Marketing subcommittee is in the process of meeting, but Staff has been working to promote Public Arts along with other City programs through new avenues.
- **Downtown Arts subcommittee:** The Downtown Arts subcommittee is in the process of meeting and planning for possible Boneyard events this summer to coincide with the unveiling of the Jack Mackie installation along Boneyard Creek.
- **Annual Planning:** As the Public Arts Budget is still under review, the budgeting discussion for FY14-15 Annual Planning will take place at this meeting.
- **Art Now!:** In the April episode and profile, Sarah Keenan-Jones, uses ceramics and recycled items to create whimsical birds and decorative insects. See episodes at: <http://www.urbanaininois.us/artnow>.
- **Artist of the Corridor:** A new Artist of the Corridor exhibition opened on February 28. Jason Patterson's (Urbana, IL) portrait paintings of recent historical figures are on display until May 4, 2014.
- **Art at the Market:** Staff has worked with the Director of the Market at the Square to reserve the following Art at the Market dates for the 2014 Market season: May 10, June 14, July 12, August 9, and September 13. The call for artists and workshop leaders has been successful and the dates for all will be chosen and filled this week.
- **Marketing:** Staff is regularly updating Facebook and Twitter accounts, with 677 fans and 825 followers, respectively.
- **Grants:** Staff submitted the grant application for FY14-15 for general operating support in the local arts agency category from the Illinois Arts Council and is actively looking for other grant opportunities. Staff received a \$1,000 grant from the Local Arts Network of the Illinois Arts Council towards conference costs for the Americans for the Arts national conference in Nashville in June 2014. The conference will focus on public art and creative placemaking.

## **Upcoming Events**

- Preston Jackson exhibition at Cinema Gallery through April 26. The gallery is open 10:00-5:00 Wednesday through Saturday.
- April 10-13<sup>th</sup>: Boneyard Arts Festival
- April 19<sup>th</sup>: King Park Sculpture Dedication at 4:00pm. Reception to follow at Cinema Gallery in Urbana.
- May meeting: Tuesday, May 13, 2014, 4:30 PM in the Council Chambers.
- May 3: Market on the Square Begins