



DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Economic Development Division

Urbana Public Arts Program Monthly Progress Report

March 5, 2015 – April 8, 2015

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

Updates on Current Projects

- **Urbana Arts Grants Program:** On March 27, a grant announcement celebration was held at Pizza M. During this event, staff announced the 2015 recipients and highlighted completed projects from the 2014 cycle.
- **Artist of the Corridor:** The current exhibition, which started on February 2 and ends on May 1, features costume design works by students from Wiley Elementary School. Some of these works are on view at the Urbana Free Library. Both sites are registered as Boneyard Arts Festival venues. The next Artist of the Corridor exhibition will begin on May 4 and feature artist Beth Darling.
- **Art Now!:** The March episode of Art Now! featured photographer Jorge Amaya. In this month's episode, John Morrison interviews Jerry Savage. See episodes at: <http://www.urbanaininois.us/artnow>.
- **Artwork Donation:** Through 8 to Create, a 2014 Urbana Arts Grant recipient, Chicago artist Matthew Woodward donated a large drawing to the City of Urbana. The drawing was created at a live event at [co][lab] in March 2015, and drew inspiration from the Illini Union. This donation has been approved by Mayor Laurel Prussing, and will be displayed at the Civic Center.



- **Marketing:** Staff is regularly updating the Public Arts Program Facebook, Twitter and Instagram accounts, which now have 774 fans, 1,383 followers, and 39 followers, respectively. A new template for the program's e-newsletter, which currently has 668

subscribers, has recently been completed by design firm VE Websites, and will be used for the April newsletter. A brochure of the Urbana Sculpture Project has also been completed by designer David Michael Moore, and will go to print in mid-April.

- **Urbana Celebrates the Boneyard!:**

On April 8, thirty street pole banners were installed near the Boneyard Creek Improvements Project. The sixteen banners along Broadway Avenue, between Water Street and University Avenue, feature works by Beth Darling and Paula Chmiel, who are the two winners of *Urbana Raises Your Art*, a call for entries. The rest of the banners around Race and Griggs Streets are by students from local elementary schools Leal, Wiley, Prairie, Thomas Paine, Yankee Ridge and King, and Urbana Middle School. All works and artists will be acknowledged at a community event at the park on April 11, from 10:00am-3:00pm.

The event, titled *Urbana Celebrates the Boneyard!*, is a part of the 13th Annual Boneyard Arts Festival. It features performances by members of the Community Center for the Arts, and by Djibril Camara & Ballet Allah Tantou. There will also be family-friendly arts activities, food trucks, and buskers.

