



DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Economic Development Division

Urbana Public Arts Program Monthly Progress Report May 7, 2015 – June 3, 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

- **Artist of the Corridor:** Beth Darling's exhibition at the City Building lobby and the Urbana Free Library opened on May 4. Her landscape and garden paintings are on view until August 4. The opening reception was held at the City Building lobby on Thursday, May 21, from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- **Art at the Market:** This initiative presents a free and family-friendly workshop and a performance by local artists at Urbana's Market at the Square every second Saturday, from May to September. Ten artists or artist groups have been scheduled to perform or lead workshops. On May 9, Art and Performance at the Market featured Neutral Cycle and the C4A String Band. On June 13, Karissa McDermott will lead a workshop titled "Garden Critters" from 8:00 a.m. to noon, and Djibril Camara & Ballet Allah Tantou will perform from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.



- **Art Now!:** In May, Art Now! reran episode #49 from October 2014 which featured, Beth Darling, the current Artist of the Corridor. See episodes at <http://www.urbanaininois.us/artnow>. The June episode explores the works of ceramic artist and faculty member Catherine Wiesener.



- **Marketing:** Staff frequently updates the Public Arts Program Facebook, Twitter and Instagram accounts. They now have 812 fans, 1,430 followers, and 45 followers, respectively. Staff also posts about upcoming events or opportunities on community webpages or online event calendars, such as 40 North's site.
- **Fundraising:** Staff is applying to Art Works, a grant program by the National Endowment for the Arts. A funding of \$10,000 is requested to support the 2016 cycle of the Urbana Sculpture Project.
- **Murals on Glass:** The deadline for Murals on Glass 2015 is June 19. Three works will be selected on June 24 by a selection committee, which consists of members of the community with great experience in art or planning. The winning works are then printed on adhesive vinyl sheets, and displayed at two downtown Urbana locations, the Urbana Business Association office and the Civic Center.