



DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Economic Development Division

Urbana Public Arts Program Monthly Progress Report June 4, 2015 – August 5, 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 Art Expo:** The Urbana Art Expo jury will meet on August 13 to review applications. Sixteen artists will be given the opportunity to display and sell their work at this one-day fair at the Civic Center on Sunday, September 13, from 10:00am to 5:00pm.
- **Artist of the Corridor:** Beth Darling's exhibition at the City Building lobby and the Urbana Free Library ended on August 4. The current featured artist is Ellie Pinzarrone, local artist and art educator, and the founder of Ellie Pinz Studio at [co][lab]. An opening reception will be held at the City Building lobby on Friday, August 28, from 5:00pm to 6:00pm.
- **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. In June, the Karissa McDermott led a very popular flower pot-decorating workshop, and Djibril Camara & Ballet Allah Tantou gave an interactive West African dance and drumming performance. In July, Ellie Pinzarrone and Maria Ludeke of [co][lab] taught participants to make patterns using vegetables as stamp, and guitarist Sam Payne performed old-time music with fiddler Claire Johnson. August's Art at the Market falls on the National Farmers Market Week, and will feature Bones Jugs N Harmony, a local band that has been commissioned to write the Market at the Square jingle. Rachel Storm and members of Girl Radio, Inc. will also be there to teach visitors to make friendship bracelets.
- **Art Now!:** The June episode explored the works of ceramic artist and University of Illinois faculty member Catherine Wiesener, and in July, Art Now featured artist Glen Davies. For this month's episode, Ginny Waaler spoke with Mike Trippiedi, who is an actor, director, and screenwriter. See episodes at <http://www.urbanaininois.us/artnow>.



- **Marketing:** Staff frequently updates the program's Facebook, Twitter and Instagram accounts. They now have 933 fans, 1,497 followers, and 52 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 has applied to Art Works, a grant program by the National Endowment for the Arts, in collaboration with the Public Art League (PAL). A funding of \$10,000 was requested to support a new-media art installation at the Boneyard Creek Improvements Project. Staff is exploring the possibility of applying to Our Town, another grant program by the National Endowment for the Arts.
- **Murals on Glass:** The deadline for Murals on Glass 2015 was June 19. Out of the 36 submitted artworks, two works were selected on June 24 by a selection committee: *Arles Morning* by Phil Strang, and *Slat Paintings* by Nathan Westerman. Staff is working with the artists and Dean's Graphic to print the images on adhesive vinyl sheets, and install them at two downtown Urbana locations, the Urbana Business Association office and the Civic Center, respectively.

