



## *DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES*

Economic Development Division

### **Urbana Public Arts Program Monthly Progress Report August 6, 2015 – September 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**

- **Urbana Art Expo:** Sixteen artists/artist groups have been selected to participate in the first Urbana Art Expo, which will be at the Civic Center on Sunday, September 13, from 10:00am to 5:00pm. The artists are Langston Allston, Roberta Bennett, Don Briskin, Allen Creamean, Beth Darling, Fred Delcomyn, Heather Dent, Kathryn Fitzgerald, Caroline Goldsmith, Travis Hocutt, Suzanne Keith Loechl, Sam Logan, Maria Ludeke, Karissa McDermott, Christina Nordholm, Ellie Pinzarrone, Erica Robertson, Carolina Rodriguez, Lynn Hawkinson Smith, Michael Owen Thomas, Jana Uebele, Sendra Uebele, and Nathan Westerman. A Facebook event page and a website ([www.urbanaartexpo.com](http://www.urbanaartexpo.com)) have been created to promote the expo and post information about the participants. Three volunteers will be at the Expo to assist with setup, teardown, and more.

On Saturday, September 12, the night before the Expo, there will be a reception at Pizza M in Downtown Urbana to welcome Expo artists. The reception will be from 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

- **Murals on Glass:** New additions to Downtown Urbana's Murals on Glass have been installed. On August 28, Phil Strang's *Arles Morning* was installed on the windows of the Urbana Business Association, and Nathan Westerman's *Slat Paintings* was installed on the east windows of the Civic Center.

On September 4, a dedication will be held at 3pm, outside of the Urbana Business Association, with a reception immediately following at the Civic Center.



- **Artist of the Corridor:** The current Artist of the Corridor is Ellie Pinzarrone, local artist and art educator, and the founder of Ellie Pinz Studio at [co][lab]. An opening reception was held at the City Building lobby on Friday, August 28, from 5:00pm to 6:00pm.
- **Art at the Market:** The last Art at the Market of the season will be on Saturday, September 12, from 8:00 a.m. to noon. There will be a hula-hooping workshop with Braswell Magic and live music by Rebecca Rego & the Trainmen. August's Art at the Market featured Bones Jugs N Harmony, and Rachel Storm, who taught visitors to make friendship bracelets.
- **Art Now!:** The August episode of Art Now! featured Mike Trippiedi, who is an actor, director, and screenwriter. In the September episode, Pat Sammamn interviewed Jess Beyer, an abstract expressionist. See episodes at <http://www.urbanaininois.us/artnow>.



- **Marketing:** Staff continues to update the program's Facebook, Twitter and Instagram accounts, which now have 978 fans, 1,525 followers, and 57 followers, respectively. Staff also manages a monthly e-newsletter, which currently has about 650 subscribers, and posts about upcoming events on community webpages and online calendars, such as [chambanamoms.com](http://chambanamoms.com) and [news-gazette.com](http://news-gazette.com).
- **Fundraising:** Several staff members in the City's Community Development Department, including Public Arts staff, have been meeting with staff and board members of the Urbana-Champaign Independent Media Center (UCIMC) to discuss the possibility of applying for a grant together. The grant opportunities that the group is looking at are NEA's Our Town and ArtPlace America.
- **Training:** Staff was offered scholarship to attend One State Together in the Arts, an arts conference in Evanston, IL on September 28-29. The scholarship is from Arts Alliance Illinois, who is co-presenting the conference with the Illinois Arts Council Agency, and includes the registration fee, transportation, and accommodation.