



DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Economic Development Division

Urbana Public Arts Program Monthly Progress Report January 7 – February 4, 2016

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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:** The Grants Program is now accepting applications until February 12, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. CST. Staff held grant workshops to introduce the initiative to the community on December 21 and January 22 at the Urbana Champaign Independent Media Center and the School of Art + Design at the University. The jury panels will meet on February 27 and March 5 to review applications and select grant recipients.
- **Artist of the Corridor:** Travis Hocutt is the current Artist of the Corridor, and his work is on view at the City Building and the Urbana Free Library until February 29. A preview of the exhibition was filmed and aired by UPTV. The next exhibition will feature student Peggy Flavin.
- **Boneyard Spring Celebration:** Staff is planning another event at the Boneyard Creek Improvements Project area on April 9, similar to *Urbana Celebrates the Boneyard!* last year. Staff has invited teachers from the local school district to submit artworks by their students, which will then be printed as banners and installed on the street pole banners around Race and Griggs Streets. The event will also have music and arts activities for all ages.



- **Art at the Market:** Staff began accepting applications for the 2016 market season in mid-January. This season will run from May to October. Application deadline is February 15, 2016. Six performers and six arts instructors will be selected in March.
- **Urbana Sculpture Project:** Staff has published an online survey to collect the public's thoughts on *Stranger Reduction Zone*. The survey, which will be open until the end of February, can be found at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/strangerreductionzone>.
- **Art Now!:** In January, the featured artist was Jon Bryan, whose unique creations using old doorknobs tell stories of American history. For the February episode, Art Now interviews mixed-media artist Ellie Pinzarrone, and this will serve as an experiment for a new format. The episode is shorter than usual, and is documentary-style. Episodes can be found online at <http://www.urbanaininois.us/artnow>.
- **Marketing:** Staff continues to update the program's Facebook, Twitter and Instagram accounts, which now have 1,078 fans, 1,622 followers, and 105 followers, respectively. Two Public Arts ads are currently up on SmilePolitely.com: one for the Urbana Arts Grants Program, and one for Artist of the Corridor.