



DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

Economic Development Division

Urbana Public Arts Program Monthly Progress Report

July 3rd – August 4th, 2017

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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

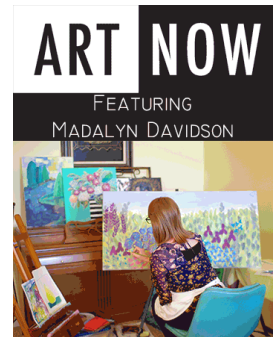
- **Public Arts Coordinator:** Rachel Storm began Monday, August 7th as Urbana new Public Arts Coordinator. Over the past eight years, Rachel has worked at the Women's Resources Center in the Office of Inclusion and Intercultural Relations at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She holds a Master's degree in educational Policy, Organization, and Leadership from UIUC and is currently working to complete her PhD in the field
- **Illinois Arts Council Grant for Youth Employment:** Thanks to a grant award by the Illinois Arts Council, the Urbana Public Arts Program is pleased to welcome Lillian Meng on as our new Public Arts Student intern. Lillian has assisted with administration, marketing, event planning and more.
- **Art Now:** In August, Art Now will feature Madalyn Davidson and her Acrylic and Watercolor paintings. Episodes are aired on UPTV 6 every Monday at 6:30 pm, with reruns every Tuesday at 11:00 pm, and are available on YouTube.

Staff is currently seeking recommendations for future artists to feature on Art Now.

- **Art at the Market:** In honor of National Farmer's Market month, this month's Art at the Market will feature an exciting lineup. Makerspace will help create paper robots and circuits that light up from 8am to 12pm. Also, from 8am to 10am, enjoy musical performances of original and traditional Americana (including ragtime and jugband) by Bones Jugs Harmony. Then, from 10am to 12pm, Mackville and their Bluegrass/Old-time gospel tunes will close out the market.

Art at the Market will take place every second Saturday on the following dates for the remainder of the Art at the Market season: September 9th and October 14th. The full summer 2017 schedule with project descriptions can be found online at:

www.urbanaininois.us/artworkshops.



- **Artist of the Corridor:** The current exhibition features nature and travel photography by Fred Delcomyn. He tries to capture images not only of the grand vistas but also images that reveal the small things in nature. A retired university professor, Fred has been interested in photography most of his life, but took it up seriously only after his retirement from the University of Illinois in 2008. You can view more of his photos on his website (www.delcomyn-photo.smugmug.com).

Staff is currently seeking recommendations for future exhibitions for the Artist of the Corridor.



- **Urbana Art Expo:** Due to staff transition, the Urbana Art Expo is currently being planned to take place at a later date this year. A change of venues is also being considered on account of scheduling conflicts at the Urbana Civic Center. Possible locations include the Urbana Free Library and the Cohen Building at the corner of Race and Main Street. Staff is open to recommendations for other venues in Downtown Urbana.

- **Urbana Sculpture Project:** A new sculpture has been installed in Downtown Urbana. “*Peek Between Trees*” by artist Mark Krucke of Sarasota, FL is located on Main Street in front of Crane Alley. The piece was sponsored by property owner Mike Hosier through the Public Art League’s 2017 sculpture call. The artist states “This piece is about human curiosity and discovery. This pair of tree-like trunks creates a negative space that forms a peak when viewed from certain angles. The peak is also very much part of the sculpture.”



A web-based, downloadable sculpture guide is available for download on the city website at urbanaillinois.us/sculptures.

- **Marketing:** The program’s Facebook, Twitter and Instagram accounts now have 1,466 page likes (an increase of 10 likes), 1,951 followers (an increase of 26 followers); and 511 followers (an increase of 11 followers), respectively from last month. On SmilePolitely.com, we have three ads up and running promoting Madalyn Davidson’s Art Now episode, Fred Delcomyn’s Artist of the Corridor Exhibition and this month’s Art at the Market.