

Residential Façade Program Is Back

Garfield – Garfield residents are eligible again this year for a residential façade program through the Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA). The rules are slightly different from last year's program.

The URA's Residential Façade Improvement Program makes matching grants available to residential property owners who wish to improve the front face of their homes in five targeted neighborhoods, including Garfield. The program's emphasis is on restoring the historical or architectural character of homes and enhancing the overall appeal of the neighborhood. The award is a 50 percent match, with a maximum grant of \$5,000.

To be eligible for this grant, the property owner must be the applicant, and the project property must not have any outstanding municipal debt. The property owner must submit a completed application and await its approval before beginning work on the project.

The project must enhance the front or street-facing façade. Properties situated on corners may be eligible for both street-facing sides. Eligible improvements are limited to the home and may include painting masonry work, windows, doors and so on. Landscaping, roof work (except mansard roofs) and sidewalks are not eligible.

Eligible residential properties can be owner-occupied, mixed residential/commercial or rental. Non-residential properties, condominiums, associations and co-ops are ineligible. The total cost for the project must be at least \$500. The property owner is responsible for 50 percent of the costs and any excess costs if they exceed \$10,000. There is a \$150 application fee per property.

Applications will be reviewed as they are received, until program funds are exhausted. For more information on applying for this grant, email carolyn@bloomfield-garfield.org or call 412-441-6950 x17. – *Carolyn Ristau, Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation*

Volunteers Complete Windshield Survey

Garfield – Fifty volunteers from Carnegie Mellon University (CMU) and a handful of neighbors came out on April 6 for the Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation's (BGC) windshield survey of residential property in Garfield. After a brief training, the volunteers poured into the streets and sunshine full of enthusiasm. An hour later, they came back even more excited about what they saw and learned.

"It was really cool to see the transformation of the neighborhood," said Raina Bradford-Jennings, a CMU junior majoring in professional writing.

Sahana Kumar, a sophomore design major, said, "It was very interesting seeing the renovated properties right next to the vacant." Kumar and her friends said they were very impressed with the work the BGC has done in the neighborhood, and they could see the difference it is making.

Tammy Lew, one of the team leaders from CMU, wrote, "We would just like to thank you once again for such an amazing time on Saturday afternoon. You guys were more than welcoming and helpful with everything, and we really appreciate the effort you put in to make the time enjoyable.... You really showed us how big of a difference we were able to make, and for that we are very grateful." – *Carolyn Ristau, Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation*

Arts in Motion Arrives in June

Penn Avenue – On June 15th, Penn Avenue Arts Initiative will host the first-ever Penn Avenue Arts in Motion fair from noon to 6 p.m. in the block of Penn Avenue between Pacific and Atlantic Avenues.

Highlighting Pittsburgh's best artists and performers, Arts in Motion will feature a stage with live music, artists, crafters and makers, as well as food booths from eateries along Penn Ave and the greater East End area. The musical lineup, which should provide entertainment for many musical interests, includes the Van Allen Belt (electro-pop), the Terpentiners (bluegrass), Vox Lumina (folk), Mega-Def (hip hop) and Geen Stovall (R&B acoustic), and a dance performance by the talented youths of the Hill Dance Academy Theater.

Families with children will find plenty to enjoy with activity tables provided by the Carnegie Museum of Art Children's Studio, Assemble and the Irma Freeman Center for Imagination. There will also be a special "I Made It! Market" nested within the fair. Mark this on your calendar and come celebrate the dawn of a new spirit of arts celebration. – *Samantha McDonough, Bloomfield-Garfield Corporation*

Art Cars Will Ride Again on Penn

Garfield – Pittsburgh, the birthplace of pop art, will host the second annual Pittsburgh Art & Car Festival this September 28 from 12 to 4 p.m. The Penn Ave Arts Initiative, which sponsors Unblurred, the monthly art event and gallery crawl, will be celebrating not just art, but cars.

Anyone can bring a car down to this event and be part of the festivities for free. Mobile masterpieces get their moment in the spotlight in this artistic car show. Automobile enthusiasts are invited to display decked-out whips, frankenrods, muscle cars and rare vintage. There will be a special award this year – the best/most creative "wooden" pickup truck bed. To register, email Most Wanted Fine Art: mostwantedfineart@yahoo.com

If you don't have an art car, there are lots of other ways to participate in the festival. There will be outdoor space for vendors and crafters. Bring your own table and registration is free. To register, email mostwantedfineart@yahoo.com.

Pittsburgh's finest creators will demonstrate Art in Action. Want to make a splash as part of a live painting segment? Email Josh Suchoza from Tattoo Noir and Art Attack: joshdestruction666@gmail.com.

Decorated bikes will be able to show off their spokes in an organized ride during the festival. To be included, email Meliora Angst: meliora.angst@gmail.com.

In addition, there will be children's activities, musical performances, food and more. Various galleries in the Penn Avenue Arts District (4800-5500 Penn Ave.) will open their doors to showcase a variety of artwork and performances. Participating art venues will represent all mediums of art – glass, dance, sculpture, clothing, paintings, clay, spoken word and a vast array of music. There will be a little taste of everything on Penn Avenue. – *Nina Gibbs, Most Wanted Fine Art*

They were missed then.
They're missed now.



Now is the time we especially remember those who served for our country. They fought to make a better world for the rest of us, and we will never forget them.

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