



At a Glance

Main IDEA empowers youth by encouraging self-expression through quality accessible arts programs.

What We Do

- ★ Week-long Summer Arts Program in Main South
- ★ Music, Creative Drama, Creative Writing, Dance, and Visual Art
- ★ Open, accessible, and affordable arts community in Worcester

Why the ARTS?

- ★ Arts programming improves:
 - Student academic achievement
 - Student motivation and engagement
 - Social competencies such as teamwork skills, self-expression, and self-confidence (Diaz 5).
- ★ The arts provide valuable lessons in critical thinking and creativity that apply to other fields of study (Egan).
- ★ The arts can reduce youth risk factors, increase protective factors, and engage students in their local communities (About YouthARTS)

Our Core Values: I.D.E.A.

- ★ **Imagination:** Fostering a creative and self-expression centered environment
- ★ **Discipline:** Building self-efficacy and self-confidence
- ★ **Exploration:** Discovering new art forms
- ★ **Attitude:** Maintaining respect and positivity

Main IDEA Benefits Worcester

- ★ **1 in 4** children in Worcester are living below 100% of the poverty level (EOHHS).
- ★ **74.3%** of Worcester District students are “high needs” (MA Schools).
- ★ **52.4%** of Worcester District students are “economically disadvantaged” (MA Schools).

Main IDEA is a tremendous summer resource and experience for the children and families [in Main South] ...As the former Mayor of Worcester and former Lt. Governor, I can say that there are few [organizations] like Main IDEA.

~Tim Murray