

The materials listed here are gathered from around the National Endowment for the Arts website and are intended to compliment the projects featured in the Bright Spots interactive graphic. The materials below provide information to help envision, develop, describe, and measure projects exploring the intersection of the arts and community. Funding opportunities are in the [Apply for a Grant section](#).

CREATIVE PLACEMAKING

The National Endowment for the Arts is a leader in creative placemaking, offering funding programs such as Our Town and Citizens' Institute on Rural Design as well as resources such as Exploring Our Town. All creative placemaking information is in the [Partnerships section](#).

ARTS IN CORRECTIONS

The National Endowment for the Arts has invested funding and research into advancing the arts in juvenile justice programs and supporting art programs for those in correctional facilities. The NEA has partnered with the Department of Justice Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention in some of this work with at-risk youth.

HEARING FROM PRACTITIONERS AND EXPERTS

"[In Prison, Family Bonding through Books](#)" looks at the [unPrison Project](#), a partnership with the [Children's Book Council](#) to create libraries at ten prison nurseries and stock visiting rooms at 31 additional prisons with books for older children visiting their mothers.

[Temporarily Free: Project Youth ArtReach Brings the Arts to Jail](#) is a video feature that showcases a program of Class Acts Arts that offers arts courses to court-appointed youths at correctional facilities and probation offices.

[A podcast with Adam Sherlock](#), head of the Sky Hops Productions program features him talking about Sending Messages, an award-winning monthly podcast produced by incarcerated youth.

Researchers Dennie Wolf and Steven Holochwost with WolfBrown talk about [the role of the arts in juvenile justice settings](#) with their report Our Voices Count: The Potential Impact of Strength-Based Music Programs in Juvenile Justice Settings that describes results from a Carnegie Hall's Musical Connections choir program in two New York City detention facilities.





FINDING RESOURCES: PUBLICATIONS

[Prison Arts Resource Project: An Annotated Bibliography](#) features evidence-based studies evaluating the impact of arts programs in U.S. correctional settings.

[Arts-based Programs and Art Therapies](#) is a literature review done in partnership with the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention

[The Arts and Achievement in At-Risk Youth: Findings from Four Longitudinal Studies](#) investigates the relationship between arts participation and positive academic and social outcomes in children and young adults of low socioeconomic status.

NEA GRANTEE RESEARCH

The NEA funds research through the [Research: Art Works](#) category. Final reports are posted as they are received and cover a wide range of topics. For example, [Art-ternative to School Suspension](#) explores alternative art programming as an effort to counter suspension, which often increases the likelihood of dropping out or ending up in the juvenile justice system.

