

Community Art Center



# Children Served	150
# Slots Improved	72
# Slots Added	4
# Employees	16
Total Project Cost	\$285,182
Size of Program Space	20,700 square ft.
Time to Complete	2-4 years
Sources of Funds	Children's Investment Fund Other Philanthropic State and City funds Corporate foundations Individual donations

The Community Art Center, founded in 1932, provides creative, challenging, year-round arts programming to youth ages 5-19. The Art Center's comprehensive approach to integrating arts, academic and social services allows our youth learn, grow and achieve their full potential. Art Center programs are open to and serve youth from all Cambridge neighborhoods, but most participants live in the public housing developments and the surrounding 'Area IV' neighborhood in Cambridge.

After ten years of getting by in a space in need of storage, new equipment and reconfiguration, The Community Art Center hired an architect and began planning a full facility renovation, an effort completed in 2011. The new space includes a new homework room, a gallery space for youth artwork and a state-of-the-art media lab for the Teen Media Program. The Art Center now attracts more attention from youth and families than ever before, as well as increased referrals and funding, and credits the message the quality of the new space sends to families, funders and youth. According to Eryn Johnson, Executive Director of The Community Art Center, "our space has transformed from the purely functional to a beautiful, professional-level arts space in the heart of Area IV, Cambridge."



For more information about Children First, visit their website:
www.CommunityArtCenter.org.