



SPRINGFIELD
Visual & Performing Arts



SPRINGFIELD'S IGNITE ALL-CITY MENTORING PROGRAMS

Igniting the joy of music, dance, theater, and visual art, Springfield students, staff, and SPS graduate instructors rise up together to mentor the next generation of creative leaders. Once a month, IGNITE All-City Programs meet at the Community Music School of Springfield. Students and educators from Springfield elementary, middle, and high schools gather to build mentoring relationships, create together, eat together, and unite as a community. The program serves as a consistent pathway to engage and support students and staff across all Springfield Visual and Performing Arts Programs.

IGNITE ALL-CITY MENTORING PROGRAMS

- IGNITE: Mentoring Through Music
- IGNITE: Springfield Drumline
- IGNITE: College & Careers in the Arts
- IGNITE: Mentoring Through Art
- IGNITE: Mentoring Through Theater
- IGNITE: Mentoring Through Dance
- *More to come...*

COST FOR STUDENTS & FAMILIES

FREE

MISSION

As proud students from Springfield, Massachusetts, we bring together our individual strengths and talents to form a family united by common goals.

We desire to create an environment through the arts that will challenge and motivate students to develop mentoring relationships and strive for excellence in all facets of their lives.

We are dedicated to the principles of leadership, unity, pride, trust, self-discipline, responsibility, critical thinking, and creativity through the study and application of the arts.

VISION

We value the arts as a dynamic force that enriches the lives of students, their families, our schools, and our entire community. Springfield will be acknowledged as a distinctive center for arts education where students are empowered to lead and create, and every student in every school has equal access to high-quality, culturally relevant, standards-based, sequential arts programs.

DISTRICT PRIORITIES & PORTRAIT OF A GRADUATE LEAD PILLAR CONNECTIONS

- Early Literacy, Middle School Transformation, College & Career Readiness, Post-Secondary Success
- "I will lead with confidence, empathy and kindness in my family, my community, in Springfield, and beyond."

GOALS

- Arts access for every student, 24,000 students.
- Develop art, dance, music, and/or theater programs in every school.
- Unite Springfield schools, visual & performing arts students, and educators.
- Build after-school arts programming that extends classroom learning.
- Inspire our community and engage community partners.
- Empower student leaders and encourage collaboration among Springfield students by providing peer mentoring experiences.
- Provide meaningful arts opportunities to ALL Springfield students, regardless of socioeconomic status, access to transportation, or experience.
- Caring about the whole child's well-being, we want Springfield students to connect through the arts and become champions for each other.
- Strengthen Springfield arts programs by providing high-quality arts instruction and peer mentoring experiences to students in those programs.
- Develop new and sustainable arts programs across all Springfield schools.

INSTRUMENTS

All instruments will be provided to students by their school music teacher. If additional instruments are needed, other schools or the district will help provide them.

EDUCATOR ATTENDANCE & PAYMENT

Educators will get principal approval and coordinate payment from their individual school budgets. The district will raise funds and contribute most of the funding to run the program, including transportation, food, college mentors, rehearsal space, performance space, and additional instruments if needed, totaling over \$100,000. Individual schools are only asked to fund their educator's time, totaling less than \$2,000. This is a great deal for schools and benefits all students.

All educators from participating schools will attend each session (or send a representative substitute teacher in their place). All educators will provide support during each mentoring session and there will be a rotation of rehearsal leaders each month. Educators will be paid by their school for their time using the standard tutoring hourly rate of \$50 per hour. Go to <https://www.createspringfield.org/arts-expansion> and scroll down for specific program annual totals.

SPS GRADUATE MENTORS

Select SPS graduate IGNITE mentors will be available to support students and music staff. Graduate mentors will receive a stipend through an active grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

OTHER SCHOOLS

If former IGNITE students currently attend a Springfield school that does not yet have a music program (like their previous school), these students are still eligible to participate in IGNITE again. These students should (1) register, (2) arrange to get dropped off at the Community Music School by their families after school during each IGNITE session, or (3) arrange to walk or get dropped off at another participating school after school so the bus can take them to the Community Music School of Springfield.

REHEARSAL SPACE

Community Music School of Springfield

Springfield High School of Science & Technology (*for Springfield Drumline Only*)

PROGRAM SCHEDULE

Once a month, 4:00-6:00pm

Buses Depart Schools

3:45-4:00pm

Arrival @ Community Music School of Springfield (Arrival @ SciTech for Springfield Drumline only)

4:00-4:25pm

Rehearsal/Creative Session & Peer Mentoring

4:30-5:30pm

Dinner

5:30-5:45pm: Pizza & Mentor Mingle Time

Dismissal

5:45-6:00pm: Buses depart for schools

6:00pm: Families pick students up directly at Community Music School (optional)

6:15pm: Buses arrive at schools

CALENDAR

IGNITE: Mentoring Through Music

9 Meetings + Performance

Wednesday, October 21, 2026

Wednesday, November 4, 2026

Wednesday, December 2, 2026

Wednesday, January 13, 2027

Wednesday, February 3, 2027

Wednesday, March 3, 2027

Wednesday, March 17, 2027

Wednesday, March 31, 2027

Wednesday, April 7, 2027

Performance Dates - To Be Determined

April & May

IGNITE: Springfield Drumline

7 Meetings + Performance

Wednesday, October 28, 2026 (at SciTech)

Wednesday, November 18, 2026 (at SciTech)

Wednesday, December 16, 2026 (at SciTech)

Wednesday, January 20, 2027 (at SciTech)

Wednesday, February 10, 2027 (at SciTech)

Wednesday, March 10, 2027 (at SciTech)

Wednesday, April 7, 2027

(at Community Music School of Springfield)

Additional meetings may be scheduled

later in the year, families will be notified.

Performance Dates - To Be Determined

IGNITE: College & Careers in the Arts

7 Meetings

Thursday, October 8, 2026

Thursday, November 5, 2026

Thursday, December 3, 2026

Thursday, January 7, 2027

Thursday, February 4, 2027

Thursday, March 4, 2027

Thursday, April 1, 2027

IGNITE: Mentoring Through Art

7 Meetings

Thursday, October 22, 2026

Thursday, November 12, 2026

Thursday, December 10, 2026

Thursday, January 21, 2027

Thursday, February 11, 2027

Thursday, March 11, 2027

Thursday, April 8, 2027

IGNITE: Mentoring Through Theater

5 Meetings

Tuesday, November 10, 2026

Tuesday, December 8, 2026

Wednesday, January 27, 2027

Wednesday, February 24, 2027

Thursday, March 18, 2027

IGNITE: Mentoring Through Dance

Coming Soon...

