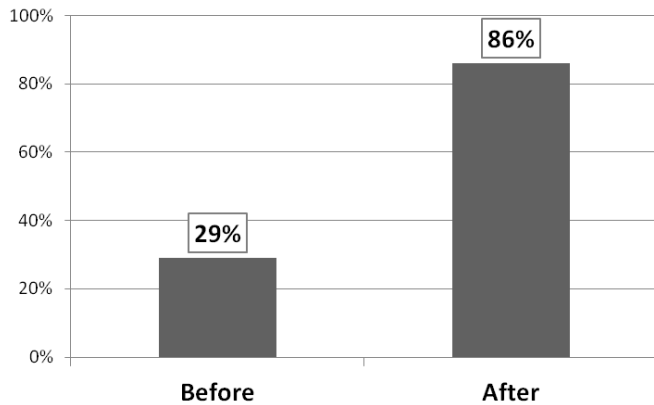


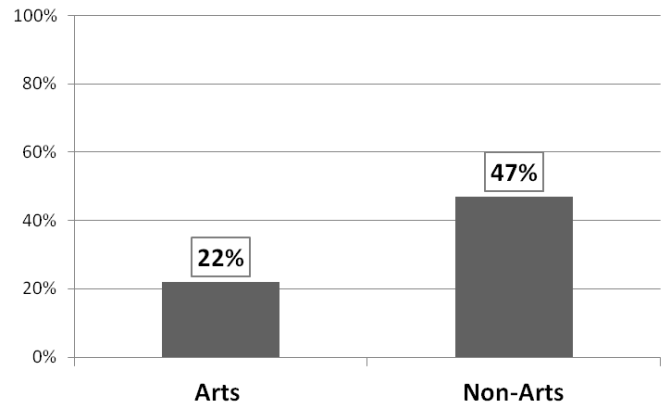


Arts Facts . . . Arts Programs for At-Risk Youth
Studies by the U.S. Department of Justice researchers demonstrate increased pro-social behavior among youth involved with arts programs.

**Youth Demonstrating Effective Communication Skills:
Pre- vs. Post-YouthARTS Program**



**Delinquent Behavior Deterred
Arts Participants Half as Likely to Have
New Court Referrals Than Non-Arts Youth**



The YouthARTS Development Project demonstrated the efficacy of arts programs for at-risk youth in three cities (Atlanta, Portland, and San Antonio). The project was a partnership between Americans for the Arts, the U.S. Department of Justice, and National Endowment for the Arts. Findings from the controlled research study include the following:

Skills

- Increased ability to express anger appropriately, to communicate effectively with adults and peers and to work cooperatively with others.
- Increased ability to work on tasks from start to finish, which is vital for both academic and vocational success.

Attitudes and Behavior

- Decreased frequency of delinquent behavior than their non-participating peers.
- More likely to show improvement in their attitudes toward school, self-esteem and self-efficacy than are non-participating youth.

Court Involvement

- Fewer new court referrals during the program period compared with non-participating youth.
- New offenses committed during the program period tended to be less severe than those committed prior to the program.

Source: Americans for the Arts, 2000.