

# Suburban Essex

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## Making Music a Priority

By Andria Park

Montclair resident David Wish was recently elected an Ashoka Fellow for his efforts through his non-profit organization, Little Kids Rock. Ashoka Fellows are among the world's leading social entrepreneurs, selected for their innovative solutions to society's most pressing problems.

"Little Kids Rock is a nonprofit organization that transforms children's lives by restoring and revitalizing music education in our public schools," says Wish. The organization partners with school districts across the country and trains teachers in the Little Kids Rock curriculum, which focuses on teaching children to perform, improvise, and compose the musical styles they love, notes Wish. Through the generous support of donors, the organization also provides children with free instruments. "I like to say that our future does not lie in our children's hands, but rather in their creativity," adds Wish. To learn more about Little Kids Rock or Ashoka, visit [www.littlekidsrock.org](http://www.littlekidsrock.org) or [www.ashoka.org](http://www.ashoka.org).

