5-Week Webinar Series for Library Professionals from Infopeople

Makers in the Library:
DEVELOPING AND SUSTAINING A COMMUNITY-CENTERED MAKERSPACE

From the authors of the Makers in the Library Toolkit and The New Face of Library Makerspaces IMLS Grant
makersinthelibrary.org
WEBINAR #1

Listen & Discover: Connecting with Community

APRIL 6, 2022,
12:00-1:00 PM PT
3:00-4:00 PM ET

makersintheLibrary.org
MAKERS IN THE LIBRARY: A TOOLKIT FOR BUILDING A COMMUNITY-DRIVEN MAKERSPACE

Are limited staff, space, and budget preventing your library from creating a makerspace? This toolkit provides a library-tested process for creating and sustaining a community-driven makerspace, no matter what your constraints.

The New Face of Library Makerspaces builds on this 2 1/2 year California State Library project and seeks to develop additional content, and share these tools and processes nationally, in partnership with the nonprofit organization Nation of Makers.

free toolkit download from makersintheLibrary.org
21 Adaptable and Practical Tools Developed in Partnership with Ten Diverse California Public Libraries
Our Toolkit Provides a Flexible, Non-Linear Process, Focused on the People You Serve
Meet Our Presenters

Lisa Regalla, CEO
Regallium Consulting, LLC

Pamela Van Halsema, Maker - Librarian, P. Van Halsema Consulting

Elacsha Madison, Teen Engagement Coordinator, Evanston Public Library

Guadalupe Gomez, Library Services Manager, Anaheim Public Library

Magali Rivera, Librarian, Anaheim Public Library

Amy Patton, Adult Services Specialist, Lake County Library
Let’s Chat

- Interact with us via polls, chat and Q&A, even though we are in a webinar format!
- Our panelists are here live during the session, so chat with us at any time during our session.
- Use the Q and A to ask questions anonymously for anyone on the panel and we will type our answers during the session.
Let’s Chat

**Multiple Choice Poll:** Do you have a makerspace program at your library?

A. We have one! *(Please share! Link to your website in the chat!)*
B. We don’t, but wish we did.
C. We have one, but it has been closed due to the pandemic
D. Other - tell us!
Let’s Chat

What is the first thing you think of when you hear the word makerspace?
Makerspaces offer open-ended activities, and access to learn, explore, collaborate and share.

Libraries are the perfect setting for this because of their mission to support a community of lifelong learning.

Makers are:

- Curious
- Playful
- Hands-on learners
- Resourceful
- Self-directed
- Persistent and learn from failure
- Collaborative and learn from others
- Willing to share ideas
- Problem solvers
- Focused on process more than finished product
- Open to the unexpected
- Comfortable with “not knowing”
What Do We Mean By *Makerspace*?

- MULTI-USE SPACE (indoor or outdoor)
- DEDICATED SPACE
- COMMUNITY EVENTS
- MAKER BOX PROGRAM
- VIRTUAL PROGRAM
- TAKE & MAKE PROGRAM
- OUTREACH PROGRAM OFFSITE
Key takeaways for today:

✓ Maker Programs Start with People
✓ Gather information from stakeholders
  - inside & outside the library
✓ Take note of your maker ecosystem
✓ Take account of your assets
✓ Identify a group that is the primary audience
✓ Think about the environment for making
✓ Identify needs and interests of the primary audience that the program can address
Tool Example: Ecosystem Map
Use this tool to visually organize the people, businesses, and organizations in your library’s ecosystem.
What people and organizations in your local community are part of your maker ecosystem?

Elacsha Madison,
Teen Engagement Coordinator,
Evanston Public Library
Evanston Public Library

- Where is Evanston?
  (Neighbor to Chicago)
- Community We Serve
- Dedicated Teen Space
- Community Listening Sessions
- EVANSTEM Maker Ecosystem
- Evanston Public Library Maker Ecosystem
EVANSTEM Mission

To coordinate partnerships and programs to build relationships with underrepresented students along STEM pathways to and through high school into college and career.
EVANSTEM Maker Ecosystem

Community Centers & Orgs

Community Makerspaces

Evanston Library

Business & Finance

Nonprofit, Faith-Based & Civic

City of Evanston

District 65 School, Northwestern University, & Oakton Community College

Education

Government

Stores, Restaurants, Banks, Fitness & Entertainment Centers

Churches, Community Centers and Organizations
Listen to Stakeholders and Share Your Makerspace Hopes with Them

✓ Library Patrons
✓ Community Partners
✓ Staff
Tool Example: Focus Groups

A small-group discussion to learn about opinions on a specific topic, in order to guide future action.
Synthesize the Listening Notes, Reveal Discoveries
After you listened, what did you hear that your community needed and wanted in a maker program?

Guadalupe Gomez, Library Services Manager, Anaheim Public Library

Magali Rivera, Librarian, Anaheim Public Library
Tools for taking stock of what you already have:

- Space Assessment
- Program Inventory
- Supplies
- Tools and Furniture
- Staff Skills and Interests
- External Resources
PHYSICAL INVENTORY CHECKLIST

Use this checklist to take note of the physical assets your library already has available. Mark one of the following: what you have on hand in the box. If an item is in need of repair, add an “R” in the box.

**CUTTING TOOLS**
- Craft Knife
- Cutting Mat
- Die Cutter
- Fabric Scissors
- Hand Shaper
- Paper Cutter
- Scissors (ruler)
- Utility Knives

**POWERED HAND TOOLS**
- Drill
- Jigsaw
- Power Sander
- Power Scrubber
- Router
- Zip Snap Cutter

**HAND TOOLS**
- Plier/Roof Plier
- Pliers
- Precision Screwdrivers
- Rubber Mallet
- Screwdriver

**MEASURING TOOLS**
- Balance Scale
- Electronic Scale
- Measuring Tape
- Rule
- Cloth Tape Measure
- Treadmill

**SAFETY/Maintenance**
- Air Purifier
- First Aid Kit
- Fire Extinguisher
- Fire Blanket
- Safety Goggles

**COMPUTERS**
- Desktop
- Laptop
- Printer
- Scanner

**JOINING TOOLS**
- Burglar Bars
- Clamps
- Hot Glue Gun
- Staples Gun
- Vice

**2D PRINTERS**
- 3D Printer
- Large Format Printer
- Plotter

**OTHER TOOLS**

**PHYSICAL SPACE ASSESSMENT**

Use this sheet to map out details about the physical space you plan to use for your maker program. Does it fit your needs? Does it fit your budget? This tool will help you keep track of what directions you’re going and what aspects can be changed in the short term versus the long term.

**Location Area**
- Description
- Dimensions
- Expenses
- What about other spaces?

**PROGRAM INVENTORY**

**STEP 1**
- Save print at least three months’ worth of your library’s program calendars for all departments.

**STEP 2**
- Review the list of programs and consider which ones have elements that are aligned with the maker mindset or encourage participants to make (e.g., any hands-on, creative, arts, or science programs).

**STEP 3**
- Log each program that has maker elements on this document with the categories provided. Do not repeat program entries (e.g., a weekly robotics program only needs to be entered once).

**STEP 4**
- Review the inventory as a whole and reflect on the following questions:
  - What surprised you about your programs when you did this activity?
  - Was it hard to identify if a program was a “maker program”? Why or why not?
  - What actions do you need to take if you want to adjust or include existing programs into your new maker space initiative?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program Name</th>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Audience</th>
<th>Coordinated by (department/percent)</th>
<th>Existing partners or sponsors</th>
<th>Does this program encourage a maker mindset or invite participants to make? Explain.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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What existing library assets did you leverage to launch and sustain your maker program?

Amy Patton, Adult Services Specialist
Lake County Library
Help us develop a place for imaginary play with nature and science!

**Lakeport Library Children's Patio**

Examples of Possible Features for the Patio

- Imaginary play structure: like a play house or farm stand
- Water play and sand play
- Imagination play
- Construction play
- Indoor science exploration area
- Planting workbench and worm compost bin
- Look at how plants grow
- Make and move water

![Mural of a sunny landscape with a waterfall and hot air balloon]

![Children playing in a sandbox]
Tool Example: People and Purpose Tool
A worksheet to help you define the audience your makerspace is designed to serve, the kind of environment you hope to cultivate, and the need you are trying to fill with the makerspace program.

Listen & Discover
Part 1: The Audience Statement

Complete the following fill-in-the-blank sentence—once for each of the audiences you’re hoping to serve with your makerspace. Remember, this is an exercise to identify who has a need and the underlying belief about that need, but not how your program might help address it.

WHO needs/wants/have

but/despite/because of

WHAT IS MISSING OR THE PROBLEM

UNIQUE ASPECT ABOUT THE PROGRAM DESIGN OR ATMOSPHERE
**People and Purpose: The Environment Statement**

**Part 2: The Environment Statement**

What kind of attitudes and behavioral qualities do you hope to encourage and support in the maker environment you're designing? Consider choices from the list below. Feel free to add more words. Mark or highlight your top three words.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thoughtful</th>
<th>Challenged</th>
<th>Curious</th>
<th>Self-directed</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Inquisitive</td>
<td>Inspired</td>
<td>Fearless</td>
<td>Collaborative</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creative</td>
<td>Open-minded</td>
<td>Genuine</td>
<td>Organized</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Caring</td>
<td>Safe</td>
<td>Adventurous</td>
<td>Reflective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Persistent</td>
<td>Respectful</td>
<td>Innovative</td>
<td>Focused</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dedicated</td>
<td>Hopeful</td>
<td>Celebratory</td>
<td>Joyful</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resourceful</td>
<td>Confident</td>
<td>Encouraged</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excited</td>
<td>Empowered</td>
<td>Helpful</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Now, ask yourself how you might best support the qualities you starred above through the maker environment that you wish to create. Fill in the blanks in the sentence below.

This maker environment helps support people to be/feel [FEELING/DISPOSITION/QUALITY] because [UNIQUE ASPECT ABOUT THE PROGRAM DESIGN OR ATMOSPHERE].
The Framing Question to guide your next stage of the program design process

Part 3: The Framing Question

Now it’s time to take those two parts—the Audience Statement and the Environment Statement—and set up your Framing Question. You’ll use this as the starting point for the next stage of your program development. Fill in the blanks below.

How might we design a maker program for [WHO] that addresses the need [NEED OR PROBLEM] and fosters/cultivates [FEELING/DISPOSITION/QUALITY]?
Examples

How might we design a maker program for **teens** that addresses the need for **a safe, positive, enriching recreational and social space** and **fosters collaboration, innovation, and learning**?

How might we design a maker program for **adults** that addresses the need for **free education and training** and **fosters the development of community and new personal and professional skills**?
What’s Next?

April 13: Brainstorm & Prototype: Out of the Box Thinking and Testing Ideas

April 20: Implementation: The Nitty Gritty of Planning & Preparing Creative Maker Experiences

April 27: Reflect & Refine: Using Evaluation to Strengthen Programs

May 4: Amplify & Grow: Marketing, Fundraising and Professional Growth
Professional Network of Support

Join our Makers in the Library Facebook Group

Contact Us!

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makersinthelibrary.org
Help us spread the word about our COVID-Innovations Survey

makersinthelibrary.org/covidsurvey
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