LIBRARY AS LABORATORY

a new role in a changing landscape

Rebecca Price
University of Michigan
May 4, 2014
Bibliotheca Alexandrina from back viewing east harbor of Alexandria
Snohetta, 2002
http://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:The_back_of_the_library.jpg
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Makerspaces are community workshops: places to connect artists, makers, technologists, engineers, and entrepreneurs with tools, resources, and shared advice.
What's a Makerspace?

To describe them simply, makerspaces are community centers with tools. Makerspaces combine manufacturing equipment, community, and education for the purposes of enabling community members to design, prototype and create manufactured works that wouldn’t be possible to create with the resources available to individuals working alone. These spaces can take the form of loosely-organized individuals sharing space and tools, for-profit companies, non-profit corporations, organizations affiliated with or hosted within schools, universities or libraries, and more. All are united in the purpose of providing access to equipment, community, and education, and all are unique in exactly how they are arranged to fit the purposes of the community they serve.

Makerspaces represent the democratization of design, engineering, fabrication and education. They are a fairly new phenomenon, but are beginning to produce projects with significant national impacts.

What do you need to know to get your Makerspace up and running?

Request a Free Makerspace Playbook

The Makerspace Playbook guides those who are hoping to start a Makerspace at their school or in their community. We welcome your feedback on the kinds of things we should add to this Playbook, what you think we got right and wrong, and any changes you’d make in general.

Contents:
Be part of the 10th Fab Lab Conference!

Institutional Partners

Founded by:
Engage
Michigan Makers is an after school program that helps students engage with technology through tinkering and creating, while promoting group work and peer mentoring.

Share
This site was created for sharing the experiences of the University of Michigan faculty, graduate students, and East Middle School Librarian who are participating in the pilot project for the 2012-2013 school year. Our program meets once a week on Tuesdays, from 3-4:30pm for the duration of the school year. We received a $1400 grant from the Michigan Association for Computer Users in Learning (MACUL) and with it, we were able to purchase affordable technologies like Raspberry Pis and Arduinos to tinker, experiment, and create. Please look around this site for detailed information concerning the lessons we’re teaching, the badges we’re earning, and all the fun we’re having!

Make
So why are we so excited about Michigan Makers? We think that with tools like Squishy Circuits, Raspberry Pis, Arduinos and more, we’re re-introducing creativity into education. So many teachers today are caught between a rock and a hard place and must prepare their students for standardized testing, leaving little time...
About Us

Who are we?
Makers gather here at the AHA! Shop. We take our world and play with it like legos. Mixing and matching recipes of life like a top chef with a picky client. A dash of electronics, a pinch of art, a scoop of biology and a MONSTER amount of awesome!

We have a number of PCs and consoles set up for gaming, with a full offering of popular titles. Check out our Digital Ops page!

The wiki knows all! Check it for all kinds of lovely information like an Orientation page, a Wish List of tools and parts, and a page on projects.

Explore more (old!) projects here!

Check out our mentions in the media here!

Build Night is every Thursday, 7:30pm – midnight. All are welcome! Board meetings are every 2nd Wednesday of the month at 8pm. Locations will be announced in advance, via the public mailing list.
WHAT'S the BUBBLER?

It's a Madison Public Library program where you learn, share, and make anything!

WHY IS IT CALLED THAT?

Why not? Bubbles rise to the surface... like creativity.

WHO IS IT FOR?

Anyone! Some programs are geared more toward adults, teens, families, or kiddos.

WHAT HAPPENS THERE?

Anything from beer brewing to creative writing to 3D printing!

IS THERE A SCHEDULE?

Yes, check the library's website for a detailed calendar.

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Espace-expérimentation / Makerspace / Québec, Qc.

L' Espace-expérimentation à Québec est un atelier communautaire et un noyau de créativité où les idées se concrétisent à l'aide de la technologie.

Community

Invite Your Friends to Like This Page

Post something on this Page...

Sherman Clarke

Bryan Slid

Post

Photo / Video

September 19, 2013

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University of Michigan
May 4, 2014
The Learning Zone is OCAD University's newest library space; an alternative work area where you can collaborate with other students and faculty or seek advice from Library staff.

Image Credit: Sab Meynert
The Labs on Location

by LIBRARYASINCUBATORPROJECT on Apr 17, 2014

We’re proud to continue our partnership with Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh and to share a new post in our series on The Labs @ CLP, a digital literacy initiative that takes makerspaces to the next level by building embedded partnerships with arts and tech organizations in Pittsburgh. This week’s post...

Chattanooga Public Library to pilot three Mozilla-funded community
Makerspaces: Lessons Learned

- Popularity of concept
- Vital need for physical space for creativity, exploration, and prototyping
- Importance of community
Design Lab One
CD Lab
MiDen (virtual reality lab)
Audio Studio
Video Studio
E-Music Studio
Center for Entrepreneurship
TechDeck
Knowledge Navigation Center
Fab Lab, Construction Lab, Metals Lab in A-School
Thank you!

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