Forming Strategic Partnerships & Creative Culture

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Florida Library Association
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What’s a makerspace?
How do you define a makerspace?
Is a makerspace about what you make?
How You Make It
Status of Makerspaces
At your institution

Scattered
Unified
Not yet begun
Advanced
How do you self identify?

I make things
I’m a maker
I was a maker before we called ourselves maker
I don’t know if I make things
I don’t make anything
Constraints to Opportunities

- Budget
- Time
- Staffing
- Engagement
- Institutional support
- Resources
MakerLab Constraints

Budget

Staffing
Partnerships & Empowerment of Users
Mutually Beneficial Partnerships

Harnessing talents
Combining strengths
Keeping an open mind
Listening to ideas
Non-Library Partnerships
Do you need a budget for a makerspace?
What if you don’t have enough staff?
Creative Technologies Association
Let’s talk about superusers
Process

1. Reach out to the right groups
2. Partner with like minded individuals
3. Craft an amazing team
4. Design and deliver crafted student learning experiences
5. Stress the informal learning in a risk free learning environment
6. Empower everyone
7. Move everyone on up the levels of engagement
8. Create a space for design thinking
10. Welcome them, empower them, bring them back
A Vision

The makerspace is a radically inclusive community with a clear pipeline to fabrication resources allowing students to design ideas, objects, and dreams.
Empowerment

Participatory Library

Identity

Outreach

Vertically Integrated Projects

Student Clubs

Practicing radical trust
MakerLab

Affiliates

Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (LSAMP)

TRIO

Trailhead Boise

JUMP

Open Lab

Creative Technologies Association

University Innovation Fellows

Space Broncos

Microgravity Team
Microempowerment

Stating positive attributes about projects and ideas

Offering potential solutions to problems

Connect users to other user experts

“You are the expert in ______ so I trust you on that.”

When they ask “Can I?” respond “I trust you to do that well considering all of the stakeholders needs”
Design Thinking

- Empathize
- Define
- Ideate
- Prototype
- Test
Makerspaces are design thinking hubs
Creative Culture
Cultivation
Positive Feedback Loop
Levels of Engagement

- Introductory level: Display interest
- Level 2: Show curiosity and capacity
- Level 3: Expresses desire to begin a project
- Level 4: Identify as a maker with value to add to the community
- Level 5: Lead in the space
- Level 6: Take on responsibilities
Best Practices - Suggestions

- Create happy collisions
- Address job skill gap
- Troubleshooting is a life skill
- Ask meaningful questions
- Help set up opportunities
- Establish mentoring
Design Your Own Makerspace
Breaking Barriers
Using a Slack Channel

scottschmader 12:34 PM
We're turning it into a modifiable Arduino/Pi learning and demonstration station where people can create their own inputs, and outputs, and program them to do cool things.

lang 5:50 PM
Current Votes
1. CTaZ : 1
2. CTAZ : 3
3. CTaZ : 1
4. Czar Cat : ???

amyvecchione 7:14 PM
Czar cats.

amyvecchione 7:50 PM
uploaded an image: Slack for iOS Upload

amyvecchione 7:51 PM
I should explain at some point that this relates somehow to @carlb telling me that he is the supreme overlord of 3D printers. Maybe he's the CTAZ czar of 3D printers.

carlb 8:06 PM
If only czar had a hard C like Carl.

amyvecchione 8:07 PM
Unrelated to CTaZ who sells illypad Arduino locally?

scottschmader 8:07 PM
Czar?
Reinforce inside jokes

noemie 10:25 PM
uploaded an image: CTAz

donovankay 11:16 PM ✡
No 3D printed cat discussion is complete without laser cat
http://www.thingiverse.com/thing:143145

Laser Kitty by MakerBot
This porcelain cat was scanned with the MakerBot Digitizer [↓]
Hiding Trilobites
Let’s let them
USE TOASTS BE RITZY
Best Practices

- Diversity
- Inclusion
- Empowerment
- Participatory Library
- Psychological safety
- Innovation
Have deliberate conversations about motivations and dreams
Acceptance of Change & Self

Makerspaces are places that challenge the status quo
Makerspaces are places to ask questions
Makerspaces are places to acknowledge and honor differences
Makerspaces are places to talk about societal issues
Makerspaces are places to feel safe enough to tackle the questions that matter the most
Questions
About me

Find me on Twitter: @librarythinking

Amy Vecchione is the Head of Web and Emerging Technology at Albertsons Library Boise State University and Maker In Residence at Trailhead.