



Presented by LibraryLinkNJ, the New Jersey State Library and
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Technology Speed Dating
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Planning a Maker Project @ Your Library:

Mount Laurel Library's Experience

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How did a bunch of non-techy library staff without a "space" plan a maker project for their community?

Connect with Makers

Libraries with Maker Spaces
FabLab in Philadelphia
STEM teachers
NJ Makerspace Association

- ▶ **Outcome:** Networking works!
We got great advice and connected with potential program presenters & consultants

Introduce Maker Concept to Staff

Showed Westport Library MakerSpace webinar as part of an ongoing *Lunch & Learn training*:
Included staff from all departments
Gauged reactions
Brainstormed possible projects for Mount Laurel Library
Invited participation in planning

- ▶ **Outcome:** Staff voiced ideas and concerns, began generating staff buy-in

Build a Team

Our core members: Director, Head of Tech Services, library programmers from YS and AS. We invited interested FT or PT staff from all departments to join

- ▶ **Outcome:** a diverse interdepartmental team ready to explore the maker world

Select Tools

Deciding Factors: Media Buzz, Success in other MakerSpaces, Community Interest
Initial budget: \$4000 Initial tools: 3D printer, Arduino, Makey Makey, button makers
Most items purchased through Amazon.com

- ▶ **Outcome:** small collection of maker tools for all ages so staff could begin to play and plan

Introduce the Maker Project to Staff

Annual Staff Training Day devoted to introducing the maker tools and project to all staff

Part 1: Keynote reminding us the library has always been a place for the community to learn new things and improve their lives

Part 2: Open Maker Play Time with Arduino, Makey Makey, 3D printer, button maker, wooden bracelet craft

Part 3: Maker spaces in action: viewed Piscataway Public Library's MakerSpace video, Presentation on 3D printing from Ty Rousseau, STEM teacher Maureen Barrett and students demonstrated their underwater robot project

Part 4: Brainstorming: what would work at Mount Laurel Library?

- ▶ **Outcome:** better understanding and buy-in for the maker project, team building through shared play

Find Partners to Expand the project

Maker Grant from LibraryLinkNJ/NJ State Library
Recruit experts for programs, paid and volunteers

- ▶ **Outcome:** enhanced budget to add new tools and support materials, experts to provide programs and consultations



Find Space

No room for a permanent maker space? Make it mobile! Unused administrative office houses our tools, many of which are stored on carts.

► **Outcome:** our maker space tools can be used in any part of the library, allowing greater programming flexibility

Launch

Introduce the project to the community

Invitations sent to stakeholders: local elected officials, school administrators and teachers, business leaders, Friends of the Library, donors (approximately 800)

Publicity: press releases, flyers, web, social media

Food: always have snacks!

► **Outcome:** key members of the community were able to see maker tools in action, see our upcoming programs, provide feedback and volunteer to become involved with Make It @ Mount Laurel Library

Budget

Make It @ Mount Laurel Library	
Item	Cost Per
MakerBot Replicator 2 3D Printer	\$2,199.00
Makerbot Filament	\$48.00
Makey Makey kits	\$49.95
Arduino Inventor's Kits	\$99.95
1" Professional Button System	\$359.95
2.25" Professional Button System	\$399.95
SINGER 8763 Curvy Computerized Free-Arm Sewing Machine	\$160.00
sewing supplies	\$500.00
Makey Makey kits (3 additional)	\$49.95
Arduino Inventor's Kits (3 additional)	\$99.95
Squishy Circuits	\$25.00
Snap Circuits	\$30.00
Google Chrome Books	\$200.00
Cart for 3D printer: w/locking drawer, locking cabinet and electrical outlets	\$430.00
Carts for sewing machines and supplies	\$100.00

Resources

Westport Library Makerspace Webinar:

<http://www.alatechsource.org/blog/2012/10/archive-of-makerspaces-a-new-wave-of-library-services-westport-ct-public-library.html>

Piscataway Library Makerspace Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e9zwRsyOs-Y>

MaKey MaKey - An Invention Kit for Everyone: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rfQqh7iCcOU>