Makerspacing Libraries

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What’s a Maker Faire?
I DON'T ALWAYS DIY,

BUT WHEN I DO, I LIKE TO SHARE IT WITH THE WHOLE WORLD
Do we need a license for this?
LEGAL STUFF?
MY FAVORITE.
Case Study: Westport Library, Westport, CT
HELD MAKER FAIRE AT THE LIBRARY

GOT ON THE COVER OF LIBRARY JOURNAL #SUCCESS
Boise’s First Mini Maker Faire
OH, SO YOU WANT TO BRING MAKER FAIRE TO BOISE?

TELL ME MORE ABOUT HOW YOU'VE NEVER DONE THAT BEFORE.
Well, I hope you learned something.
ALL LIBRARIES SHOULD HOST MAKER FAIRES

FALSE. LIBRARIES SHOULD HOST MAKER FAIRES IF THEY WANT TO CREATE COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS AND SUPPORT THE MAKER MOVEMENT.
Make It Idaho is a pilot program sponsored by the Idaho Commission for Libraries to bring makerspaces to 5 public libraries in Idaho.

First year emphasis is to mix makerspace concepts and STEAM education to reach teens and tweens.
Make It Idaho - Tools

- Brick Lab
- Fishertechnik
- Arduino and soldering iron kits
- Google+ Maker Camp tool kits
Make It Idaho - Training

1. Learn to build and teach with the Brick Lab and Fishertechnik

2. Learn to build and teach with Fishertechnik robotics and robotic programming

3. Learn to use a 3D printer (Fall 2013)
Make It at Meridian Library

Teen Tech Week 2013
Brick Lab builds at Meridian Library Bookmobile and Silverstone Branch

Fishertechnik Building Class

Stealth Programming
Make It at Meridian Library

Summer 2013
Teen programming started as a class teaching Fishertechnik on Wednesday mornings.

Second week turned into an open lab.

Started each Make It day with an ice breaker group build usually shaped as a quick competition.

No permanent space for Make It yet so we used our programming room.
Learning coding skills from Codecademy

Brick Lab Group Build

Disassembling a projector
MLD Make It 2013-14

- Open Lab Make It every Thursday for teens
- Bringing in experts each month to share a new skill
- Bi-monthly Make It Saturdays
  *Open for all ages and will be marketed to families
- Mobile Make It Kits to use during outreach
Inspired by:

- Open Lab Idaho
- PCS Learning Center
- Detroit Public Library - HYPE Makerspace
- Rural libraries in Idaho after SPLAT visits
Make It at Ada Community Libraries
Makeiteers Wanted!

MAKE IT
AT ADA COMMUNITY LIBRARY
VICTORY BRANCH
SparkTruck Visit

• Visited Victory Branch in August 2012
• An Introduction to “Making” as a thing.
• Sparked an Interest
History of ACL Maker Programs

- Mr. Patrick’s Workshop
- Friday Lego Programs
- Yarn Arts and Yarn Bombing
- Preschool Craft and After School Arts
- Science Programs

Lots of Maker programs though not classified as “Maker.”
Make It Makes Us Rethink Our Space

- We already do Maker programs - not totally reinventing the wheel though looking at it differently
- Art Room: Why do we only make it available during programs?
- Recent STEM training falls in line with Maker movement
- Why are we keeping some of our amazing resources behind closed doors?
- We are still rethinking our space. Leading to large-scale and long overdue weeding and shifting of collection.
- Gives incentive to go ahead with some ideas staff had been mulling but hadn’t found the motivation to make happen - Minecraft, STEM Play & Learn, others
Art Room Transformation To...
The Make It Space!
The Make It Space!
Make It Victory Branch Programs

- Popsicle Stick Catapults
- Lego Challenges
- Minecraft
- Squishy Circuits
- Zhu Zhu Pets Battle Bots
- Outreach
In the Works *Make It* Programs

- Weekly Homeschool Program (Fall 2013)
- 3-D Printing (Fall 2013)
- Robotics & Engineering Clubs
- Intro Video Gaming Coding Classes
- Patio Community Garden
- How It Works (Deconstruction) Program
- Monthly Adult Make IT Program
- Video & Podcast Production
- Tool Drive

Also using resources like VolunteerMatch.org, Facebook, and good old talking to people in the library to find professional “Makeiteers” to provide additional programming and classes.
Early Benefits

• Rethinking our entire space and examining where we are going
• Initiated literal Spring Cleaning (and long-overdue weeding)
• Making already existing resources more available to public
• Stealth programs give people incentive to come during non-staffed program times
• Sneaky learning
• Incentivises staff and public to play and learn together
• All-Ages love to make!