

MakerSpace Webinar Monday, September 24

In attendance: Alex Hartman, Cindy Bigler, Denise Neujahr, Megan Egbert, Morgan Chevalley, Nick Grove, Nick Madsen, Sherrilynn Bair, Sue Sabala, Travis Porter, Sue, Erica

Round Robin Check-In: Challenges/Successes/Tips

Alex-

- Continuing to work with Engineering kits
- On a request basis in the teen cave
- 6 kids building and having a great time
- Cardboard Challenge part - doing a big fort in space; will continue to work on this for the month
- One of the teens has been doing work with the arduino and soldering. Really enjoying
- Challenge: Soldering is a project that requires supervision and it does need an isolated space due to smell/smoke. Something to consider.
- Has a teen using Raspberry Pi as well- on his own.

Cindy B-

- Have used the soldering iron as well - a community member came in and mentored them - with Cindy watching. Had to open the doors to get some fresh air. Very nice partnership.
- Has done a bit with the Cardboard Challenge - more with the younger kids - doing over several weeks.
- Did some of the activities during the MakerCamp over summer. Loved the Squishy Circuits!!
- Looking for a tech savvy person to assist going forward.

Nick M-

- 100-150 wine corks avail for teens to build with. Teens did all sorts of neat things with them. Also doing origami - stealth programming.
- No specific makerspace programs over summer.
- Greg B did LEGO robots and other devices. The LEGO pinball machines were awesome.
- Craft : middle schoolers and late elementary: Survival bracelets, gelatin printing (make a tray of unflavored gelatin- put ink over it and make a design (like leaves) and place paper on it - the ink only goes where there is not a leaf - makes a silhouette), The last was an outreach to Head Start - 0-5 years....did science experiments with them. Stations - loved it!
- Took outside of teen groups

Denise-

- Mr B (Greg) came as well - did the pinball machines too
- Signed for the Cardboard Challenge. Sent out a district letter asking them to participate. Smaller libraries are challenging the community to make something and bring it to a party to show off what they did.
- Will have the various tools/materials out during that party. Thinking of every library taking a kit and putting it out for free building - have a staff member present to watch and make sure it goes well.
- A foodbank in CA did an event called CANSTRUCTION -made things out of full cans of food and then donated to the foodbank.

Morgan-

Over the summer we did 'Fairy House' projects by making houses out of materials found in nature. We also had a couple of cooking class with a local chef. Chocolate pasta... oh yeah.

Travis -

- Denise's overview - Star - a couple of teen programs in June and July - teen maker time - average 10 teens. Discover E kits, group mural. She found that she scheduled 60 min. But always felt that 90 min would be better. (Travis agrees) Ages 8-13 mostly boys.
- Created a display space to show off the builds. Starting this fall will have a specific makerspace. Different days will be different projects and ages. Rubberband Cardboard Car for the Global day of play. Building the city of Star using only legos. Yarnbombing. Other days will be teen focused.
- Doing origami too. Getting some funding from the Friends group.

Travis -

- Official MakeIt program on Tuesdays. Using Universal kits- carnival rides - using the FT building books. Tweens and teens are loving them more the carnival kits - less text based.
- Using FB doing outreach to homeschoolers. 35-45 kids for this group.
- Weekly origami
- Fabric arts mostly for adults
- Other focus - more outreach. Talking to community members and getting them more involved.
- The Sheep program was awesome!
- Dressmaking - open to older teens and adults.
- Participating in the Cardboard Challenge - Star Wars day - tying them together.
- Trying to find time for the older teens to have their own time - more freeform but with a mentor....
- Outreach to Horizon Elem and used the Engineering kits all summer long. Starting in Oct will be doing weekly afterschool classes every Tuesday -maker focused.

Nick/Megan-

- Possible dedicated MS in the works! Might be in the library or in a new community space that is in the works...
- Nick has been doing most of the programming.
- A lot of Fischer Technique building - displaying the builds in the lobby. Also brought in old electronics, took them apart.
- Book challenge incorporated into programming. Used the Maker books as material - a lot of maker ideas. Used them for content.
- Couple of kids used soldering irons - took apart a disposable camera and resoldered it to be a mineo taser - no one was hurt.
- Video challenge for a commercial - used during a movie night at the park - it was the official library commercial for the evening.
- MakeIt Thursdays - Guest speaker each week will focus on a different subject. Something lined up for every Thursday through the end 2013. Also open building at that time. MakeIt Saturdays too - all of the materials will be open for 3-4 hours - more community or family based. Will have guest speakers too. Also a time for the teens to show off what they have made and mentor others.

Sherrilynn-

- Friday mornings - working in the main library area to increase the exposure. An off-track college student has joined the group and is helping. He is familiar with arduino and Raspberry Pi. Also doing quilting, embroidery, knitting, and other fabric arts.
- Not as much success with the boxed kits - want to just create something. Still working on it.
- Partnering with the school district - a drafting class - guest coming from ISU - will expand the class to include some of the maker projects.
- Blackfoot Community Charter is doing maker projects and she wants to meet with them to see how they can support the project and help or use the materials.

Training:

- Nov. 6-8, half day on Nov. 6; full days on the other 2 days.-Training for 3D printers is set for 7 and 8. Each library will take the printer home. If have not done so, please share the top 3 colors you prefer. Agenda and instructions will be coming soon.
- Training will be similar to earlier ones. Share any questions with Erica. Be certain you are doing the TRW Bingo challenge.

Next steps for the Maker Space project: Ideas for year 2-how do we move forward?

- Focus on after school programs and reaching out to schools with their captive audiences. Schools are interested in STEM programming. For phase 2 of project, looking at smaller libraries in CLN system, will try to compile a list of cheaper programs that don't require a lot of specialized materials.
- Those from the pilot project could be presenters on more specialized topics.
- A more formal survey questionnaire on next steps for each library is forthcoming.
- Possibly use current libraries as mentors for additional libraries that are involved in the next year.
- Would be good to increase number of libraries so that there are more libraries to work with and collaborate with.
- Space: the final frontier? Future project for current participants might be to try to create a permanent MakerSpace area.
- Selecting how to use space is a mindset that needs to be addressed.
- Share ideas on next steps with Erica/Sue.

Not all Fischer Technique pieces fit in the small containers. Might purchase larger containers to hold these pieces. If you need these bins, let Erica know so you can pick up at the Nov. training. Gooding, Meridian, Snake River would like additional containers.

TTW and Summer Reading themes are linked to MakerSpace concept. Working on ways to incorporate.

Website continues to be updated and several programs have been completed and are underway. Project is receiving national/international attention. Erica presented to Afterschool Alliance and Erica, Megan, and Travis will participate in "French Connection". Travis will participate in Maker presentation at Small and Rural Library conference in Omaha this week.

Continue to share your activities and photos of kids participating in projects.

Possible new project at Ada or Meridian: more details to follow!