

No Money, No Staff, No Makerspace – No Problem

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**St. Albert
Public
Library**



Outline

- What are the benefits of offering a Makerspace service?
- Overview of St. Albert Public Library Makerspace
- Activity: Staff buy-in
- Building a robust network of staff and volunteers
- Q & A

Benefits of Makerspaces

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The logo for St. Albert Public Library, featuring the text "St. Albert Public Library" in a bold, sans-serif font. To the left of the text is a blue L-shaped graphic element consisting of a vertical line and a horizontal line meeting at a right angle.

Pros

- Equal access to technology
- Builds community through collaboration
- Attracts new people to the library
- Encourages creativity: “everyone is a maker”
- Develops new skill sets
- Community engagement

Cons

- Creation of Makerspace is time-intensive
- Challenge to find space
- Monetary cost involved
- Operating a Makerspace demands staff time

No Staff

- Start small
- Look for opportunities
- Survey current programming
- Gauge staff interest – find your champions!

Vision

The SAPL Makerspace is an inclusive space for all ages to explore, create, learn, and collaborate.

Mission

In a collaborative environment, SAPL staff operate as facilitators of the discovery process, hosting a space that is designed to foster the exploration of ideas, new technologies, shared knowledge, and community connection.

SAPL Makerspace



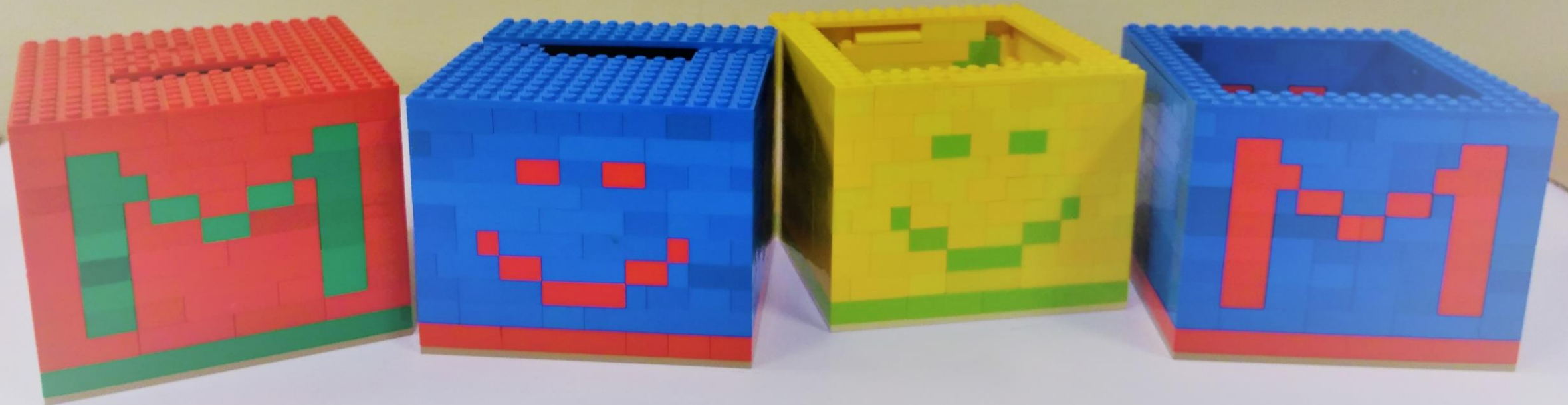
SAPL Makerspace



Staff buy-in: inclusion + fun



Maker musings



Makerspace



Staff questions

1. What do you think is a Makerspace?
2. How can a Makerspace contribute to the community of St. Albert?
3. What do you think your role is in the Makerspace service?

Staff training - keep it fun!



Let's design!

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A blue L-shaped graphic element consisting of a vertical line on the left and a horizontal line at the bottom, positioned to the left of the library name.

Staff training - keep it fun!



Makerspace Host Training

1. Engage
2. Promote
3. Facilitate
4. You're not expected to be an expert

Makerspace Volunteers



Title: Makerspace Volunteer Assistant

Objective: To help with Makerspace during open hours.

Responsibilities:

- Setup and takedown of Makerspace equipment, tables, posters
- Assist patrons with technologies, encouraging co-learning
- Monitor technology to prevent theft and/or breakage

Qualifications:

- Community members with interest and ability in Making
- Enthusiasm and aptitude for engaging with community members
- Positive, flexible attitude
- Ability to adapt to a changing environment

Orientation:

- Orientation to the Makerspace will be provided.

Commitment:

- Knowledgeable about SAPL Makerspace service
- Makerspace sessions, 3 hours twice per month (1st Wednesday, 4:30-7:30 & 4th Saturday, 1:00-4:00 each month)

Total time commitment would be between 3-6 hours/month.



No money?

1. Creativity
2. Inventory
3. Sharing
4. Grants

No space?

1. Think outside the box
2. Evaluate your spaces
3. Unusual spaces can bring in new patrons

Q & A

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