Equitable Access
and Makerspaces
• A unique learning environment that encourages tinkering, play, and open-ended exploration for all

- Laura Fleming

Maker Workshop, University of SC
Maker Spaces can be anything your patrons and you want them to be!
“Developing online spaces circumvents some of these geographic and infrastructural barriers, as well as affords connection to valued information sources produced outside the formal publishing system.”

What Are We Talking About

• Sometimes seen as the digital tools that can be used in a library maker location

• Digital video cameras, microphones, musical instruments, media editing software, 3D printers, computer programming kits, and robotics.
Green Screens, Do Ink App, News/Video Programs

Image Courtesy of Leah Joly
Green Screen Pizza Boxes
What About Fully Online Makerspaces?

- Accessible to anyone, anywhere
- Collaboration across locations
- Open spectrum of digital online tools offered
- Suite of options for library patrons
- What would that look like in your library?
Currently Made Up Of Tools

- Digital Storytelling Tools
- Music Creation/Recording Tools
- Video Creation Tools
- Presentation Tools
- Visual Art Creation Tools
Google forms

UNCG's SELF Design Studio - Inquiry Form

* Required

First name:

Last name:

Email address:

Question for the SELF Design Studio staff:

Fall 2015 UNCG School of Education Educator Workshops

Location:
University of North Carolina - Greensboro
School of Education Building - Room 307
“I liken a mobile makerspace to a food truck. A mobile makerspace can go to the patron instead of waiting for the patron to arrive. Food trucks, like mobile makerspaces, depend on demand and social media advertising.”

DH Makerbus
Image Courtesy of Frysklab, Leeuwarden, Netherlands
Maker Fleet

Image Courtesy of Brad Gustafson, Greenwood Elementary School, Wayzata, MN
Accessibility

“Accessible “making” at the library can enrich the lives of people who are differently abled in many ways, allowing them to create items to improve their world, have fun, and identify hobby and career possibilities.”

Creating Maker Experiences Or Making For

- Visually Impaired
- Hearing Impaired
- Mobility Impairments (Wheelchair, Walker, Cane, etc)
- Cognitive Impairments
- Autism
- Cerebral Palsy

(For a more detailed list please see ADA.Gov)
Storytelling Makerspace
(Special Thanks to Laura Fleming)
Tactile Picture Books, University of Colorado Boulder
Visual Maps

Photo Courtesy of Adam Rogers, Hill Library, NC State
Hearing Impairment
Setting Up Your Makerspace

• Facebook, Yahoo, Google has visually impaired employees to aid in accessibility issues on their sites. In other words, ask the experts. Show a video of your layout, get feedback

• Have instructions in multiple formats (Written, demo, video, braille)

• Make space layout wheelchair/walker friendly

• Be very aware of music/noise for autism spectrum guests

• Have outputs in a variety of formats (visual, tactile, auditory, taste)

• Your makerspace is ready for any audience, it may just need a few tweaks to be universally designed, to be inclusive for all
“Libraries can create online collections and resources that combine the formal sources held by the library with those informally produced by individuals with LGBTQ+ identities.”

Things To Ponder

- Thinking about our patrons, inclusion of all
- Feature LGBTQ+ Authors and Artists
- Marketing toward LGBTQ+ novels, artists, designers, and much more
- The programming in general is no different, the lens and focus is more specific
Questions?

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