

DISCUSSION: ENVISIONING MAKERSPACE CULTURE IN YOUR LIBRARY

IF YOU'RE NOT PLANNING TO HAVE A MAKERSPACE

- IMLS is updating its funding priorities and is considering "learning in libraries." How does your library support formal and/or informal learning today?
- What would you like to do that you lack the current infrastructure / space / staff / in-house expertise to do?
- Imagine that the Michigan Library Association asked your library to submit photos for a, "This is what learning looks like @ our library" advocacy slideshow. What photo epitomizes learning in your library right now? What would the ideal photo look like?
- Every library community has unique needs. If a makerspace isn't right for your patrons, what is?

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HAVE A MAKERSPACE

- Makerspaces offer us a chance to augment the services we provide to our existing patrons. How could maker culture better serve those existing patrons?
- Who is currently not using the library? What kinds of maker events might draw them in?
- If you could get \$500 from your board/regents/director to start a makerspace, how would you spend it?
- Who in your community could you partner with?
- What sources of grant funding could you envision?
- Who / what could help you find funding?
- Who in the MLA community could help you get started?

IF YOU ALREADY HAVE A MAKERSPACE

- What has been your most powerful maker programming event?
- Describe a moment when you thought, "Wow – we're really onto something with this maker initiative."
- Describe a moment when you felt that making transcended cool tools and became about people.
- What should newcomers to the maker movement know?
- Where have you struggled with maker tools, programming, and/or culture? What would you do differently next time?
- Who have been your most valued partners?
- Where would you like to go / grow next?