



Maker Education Initiative

• EVERY CHILD A MAKER •

2013 Annual Report

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Introductory Letter

Dear Friends,

It's hard to believe that 2013 was Maker Ed's first full year of programming! We made huge strides advocating for transformation in education and **building a network** of educators and youth-serving organizations committed to embrace making as a way to build confidence and creativity in youth.

Our flagship program, Maker Corps, exhibited the potential of an innovative online training model to empower facilitators with the confidence to lead unique, quality making experiences at their institutions. By placing trained Maker Corps Members in settings such as children's museums, libraries, schools, and community-based organizations, we were able to **reach more than 90,000 youth and families across 19 states**.

Maker Ed continues to grow and establish itself as **a leader for making in education** and, in doing so, added three new initiatives in 2013:

- 1) Maker Ed welcomed a partnership with AmeriCorps VISTA to bring making experiences to high poverty youth. Valued at \$440,000 annually, this program aims to **change the life trajectory of young people in low-income communities** across the country.
- 2) The Young Makers program is a club model that **develops youth into confident and capable individuals**. Young people work with a mentor to create a youth-chosen, open-ended project, culminating in an opportunity to share and exhibit at a showcase event.
- 3) Maker Ed's Open Portfolio Project, in partnership with Indiana University, is researching a common set of practices to create an open, decentralized, and distributed **lifetime portfolio system for makers**.

As we grow and continue to expand our efforts, we remain true to our values of supporting youth who may not normally have access to making opportunities.

This report is a reflection of the work and achievements made possible by our outstanding staff, board of directors, and partners in our community. To all those who support Maker Ed, we thank you for helping us move one step closer to our vision of **"Every Child a Maker."**

With gratitude,



Lisa Regalla
Deputy Director, Maker Ed

About Maker Ed

MISSION

Maker Ed's mission is to create more opportunities for all young people to develop confidence, creativity, and interest in science, technology, engineering, math, art, and learning as a whole through making.

GOALS

We will achieve our mission by ensuring that:

1. Educators have the resources and support necessary to facilitate meaningful making experiences.
2. Organizations have the capacity to engage youth in making in formal and informal educational environments.
3. Communities are equipped to lead and advocate for youth of all backgrounds to access making opportunities.

HISTORY

In May 2012, Maker Ed was formed in response to President Obama's "Educate to Innovate" campaign to move American students from the middle to the top of the pack in science and math achievement over the next decade.

Maker Ed plays a national leadership role in developing a maker network of institutions, youth serving organizations, statewide afterschool networks, corporations, foundations, and makers seeking to accelerate and deepen the Maker Movement.

Maker Ed's founding sponsors include Maker Media, Cognizant, Intel, and Pixar Animation Studios. Dale Dougherty, leader of the Maker Movement, Executive Chairman of Maker Media, and creator of Make: Magazine and Maker Faire, is the visionary and chairman of Maker Ed.

Maker Corps

Maker Corps meets the national demand for human capacity in youth serving organizations by embedding mentors into Host Sites such as museums, libraries, schools, and afterschool programs. Throughout the spring and summer, Maker Corps engaged Host Sites and Maker Corps Members by bringing them together through a private, online Google+ Community and guiding them through a Development Camp complemented by a Possibility Box filled with tools and materials.



“With mere words I cannot tell you how much Maker Corps improved our programming this summer, and how much it was an amazing learning experience for all of us!”

- Jeff Sturges
Founder & Conductor, Mt Elliott Makerspace
Director's Fellow, MIT Media Lab

Key Accomplishments in 2013

- Maker Corps served more than 90,000 children and families by placing 108 Maker Corps members in 34 youth serving organizations across 19 states.
- More than 20 percent of Maker Corps Members were hired by their institutions following their summer experience.
- 54% of Maker Corps members were female, 45% were male. The demographics of Maker Corps members accurately reflected the demographics of the US population.

Young Makers

The goal of the Young Makers program is to develop youth into confident and capable individuals through the process of making. Participating communities embrace an open culture that encourages cross-disciplinary efforts, peer-to-peer teaching and learning, and the importance of both hard and soft skills. In small clubs, participants work together throughout the season to design and make a youth-chosen, open-ended project, culminating in an opportunity to share and exhibit at a showcase event. Because the focus is on the process of making, sharing, and exhibiting — not competition — there are no winners or losers, just fantastic makers and learners who innovate and collaborate to create something great.



“Each week as I head up to meet the kids I wonder how they’ll meet the next challenge. This isn’t just about building things. In addition to the actual construction, they have to do creative brainstorming, choose an ambitious but doable project, surmount roadblocks, organize themselves, and think about how to describe their project to others. And each week, they step up to the challenge and go beyond what I expect.”

- Kurt Fleischer
Young Makers Mentor

Key Accomplishments in 2013

- Maker Ed supported the largest group of young makers thus far, with more than 245 youth participating.
- Almost 200 youth with 80 diverse and exciting projects, exhibited at the Maker Faire Bay Area.
- Young Makers expanded a three-year partnership with the Exploratorium to include the Lawrence Hall of Science, Tech Museum of Innovation, and Bay School.

Maker VISTA

Maker Ed partnered with the Corporation for National & Community Service: AmeriCorps VISTA project to place VISTA members and VISTA leaders into our National Maker Network. The Maker VISTA project fosters maker programming year-round in communities across the nation, using community-school outreach strategies that ensure youth in high-poverty communities have access to making opportunities that engage them in STEM activities, the arts, and learning as a whole. Through their role as capacity builders, VISTA members act as community connectors and document the essential elements to sustain thriving maker communities in high need areas.



Key Accomplishments in 2013

- Maker Ed was awarded a federal grant valued at \$440,000 for the first National Maker VISTA Project.
- The first cohort of 9 Maker VISTA members and 1 VISTA leader began their year of service in 5 high poverty California communities: Los Angeles, Oakland, Sanger, Santa Ana, and Stockton.

“Making is part of our history. Everything we have, use, taste and touch was made by someone or something. Something so naturally ingrained in our culture and ancestry should also be critically woven into our schools.”

- Jessica Gray Schipp
Maker VISTA Member
Lighthouse Community Charter
School

Open Portfolio Project

The Open Portfolio Project aims to develop a common set of practices for portfolio creation, reflection, and sharing to create an open, decentralized, and distributed lifetime portfolio system for makers. In collaboration with Indiana University's Creativity Labs, the Project includes 3 phases of work: a literature review, an extensive set of field sites visits with iterative design experiments, and a written set of research briefs. The Project began in October 2013 and is slated to be completed at the end of December 2014.



“Open portfolios have the potential for helping us to rethink our current assessment practices, honoring youths’ voices and abilities without flattening them to a single test score. The work that youth make over a lifetime becomes even more powerful when it can be assembled in one place, aiding in both learning and self-reflection as well as in shaping both our individual and community identities. We are what we make in so many ways.”

- Kylie Peppler
Assistant Professor of Learning Sciences
& Director of The Creativity Labs
Indiana University

Key Accomplishments in 2013

- All core team members, including Stephanie Chang and Lisa Regalla of Maker Ed and Dr. Kylie Peppler and Anna Keune of Indiana University, were convened.
- The core team members outlined the timeline and phases for the project.
- The National Working Group, consisting of more than 15 experts in education, technology, arts, assessment, and engineering who have direct interest and experience in designing and working with portfolios, was established to function as an advisory and sounding board.

Special Projects

Maker Ed continued to build and strengthen its network of maker educators by (1) leading professional development trainings, hands-on workshops, and webinars, (2) organizing or participating in various conferences and events, and (3) supporting youth-serving organizations through microgrants. Below are a few highlights:

Conferences and Events

- Ed Cafe at Bay Area and New York Maker Faires
- Make-to-Learn Symposium/Digital Media & Learning Conference
- MacArthur's Reimagining Education
- Clinton Global Initiative America
- National Afterschool Association
- FabLearn
- White House Science Fair
- CA STEM symposium
- Fab Lab Foundation Digital Fabrication Professional Development Design Studio I
- Exploratorium Engineering Conference
- Association of Science-Technology Centers



Microgrant Recipients

- Arizona State University
- Center of Science and Industry
- Chicago Children's Museum
- Children's Museum of Pittsburgh
- Digital Harbor Foundation
- Exploratorium
- Free Library of Philadelphia
- Great Falls Public Library
- Henry Ford Museum
- Mt. Elliott Makerspace
- Newark Museum
- New York Hall of Science
- San Antonio Makerspace
- Science City at Union Station
- Science Museum of Minnesota

Professional Development

- MESA Days: Inventing with Paper & Light
- In-person training for Girl Scout leaders
- Exploratorium's "Making for Educators" webinar series
- California After School Alliance's "Making More Makers" webinar
- Afterschool Alliance's webinar series
- EdVenture Children's Museum in-person workshop
- Intel Tech Disruptor in-person training in Chicago, New York, and Los Angeles
- "MAKE-ing Gliders" workshop at The Exploratorium's NGSS STEM Conference
- "Maker Bridge" webinar for Summer of Making and Connecting

Supporters

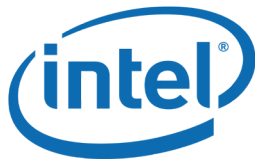
Maker Ed's programs, projects, and initiatives are made possible through the generosity of incredible supporters. We are particularly thankful to our founding sponsors, Cognizant, Intel, Maker Media, and Pixar.

We would like to acknowledge the following supporters of our work:

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