



BREAK TO MAKE

AN ALL WOMEN'S MAKEATHON



Welcome

Break to Make is a two day, all women's makeathon created by Spark SC at the University of Southern California. Women from any major within USC come to learn how to turn an idea into a product in just two days. In addition to learning about the sustainable product design process and prototyping with Arduino and 3D printing, participants hear from speakers in the industry, and pitch their projects to a panel of judges.

The makeathon is an opportunity for engineers and non-engineers alike to explore hardware tech in a fun, challenging, and supportive learning environment.



The Makeathon

For this first year of the makeathon, ten teams came together at USC to design a solution to a challenge in one of four categories: food, water and shelter; communications; education; and open design. Many teams came with little experience in making, and by the end of the weekend had learned how to 3D print their first project or use an IoT board.

By the numbers

100%

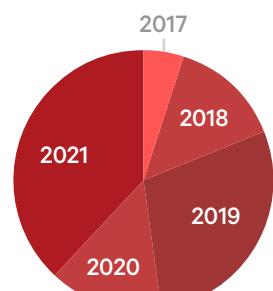
*participants
would return to
Break to Make*

10
teams

3
winners

18
majors

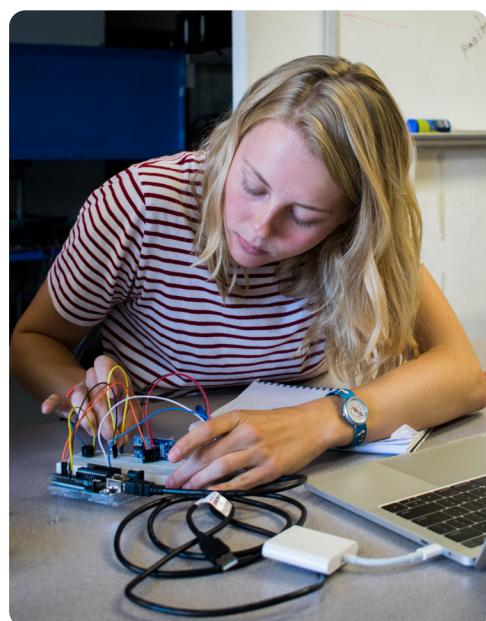
20
sponsors



graduation year

“ It was inspiring to be able to help some people and learn so much from others. In just one weekend I saw my teammates and definitely myself gain self-confidence and a feeling that we had a place in the world of makers. **”**

— Margaret Field, Class of 2019



Workshops

The first day included workshops on ideation, the product design process, and prototyping. Participants learned how to create a product with sustainable design and an end user in mind, and with the help of our mentors, every team had an initial prototype by the end of the first day.



3D Printing

Featured Workshop

Allison Weiner from Makerbot teaches a workshop on modeling in Fusion 360 and 3D printing.

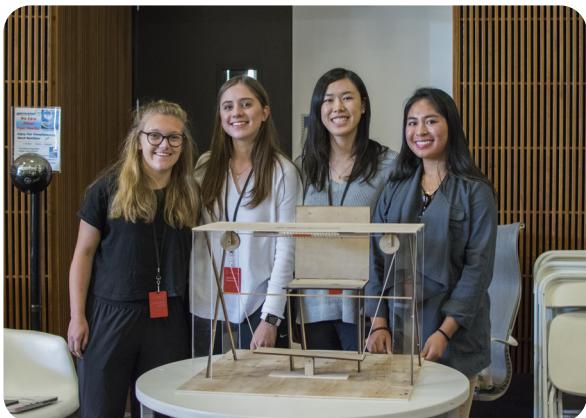
Judging

Once teams finished their projects on the second day, they were evaluated by a panel of judges. This past year, we were joined by the incredible women featured below:



Project Highlights

Project highlights were IoT smart tables, 3D printed disaster relief bands, smart deadbolts, sustainable living spaces rendered in Unity, and more. Prizes included IoT boards and self-balancing robots. We've highlighted our winners below:



Fidget Desk

1st Place

A desk that generates energy while keeping students focused. Prototype built with laser cut or 3D printed parts & springs.



Intable

2nd Place

A smart desk that increases class participation, made with a Particle Photon, 3D printed parts, and plywood.



Blue Key

3rd Place

A smart lock that opens dorm rooms with the tap of a phone, made with 3D printed parts and Arduino.

Get Involved

After our first event, we had dozens of requests from participants to make Break to Make happen again. Now that we have one makeathon under our belts, we're looking to scale, strengthen, and sustain our initial impact. **This year, we're asking you to join us in supporting Break to Make.**

Where you can pitch in:

- Funding for materials & food to keep our makers fueled throughout the weekend.
- Referral to incredible mentors, judges, or speakers to guide and inspire our women.
- In-kind donations or loan of food, prizes, or materials for the weekend.

What you can expect:

- Dynamic photos of our makers with your in-kind donations or company swag.
- Access to resumes and emails lists to get in touch with participants and share promotional materials after the event.
- Opportunity to work with women in engineering and related fields as a mentor, judge, workshop lead, or speaker.

Our Tiers

While we've highlighted a few example tiers below, we're happy to discuss additional ways you can support Break to Make.



Idea Tier

\$500

Have your brand and logo featured on all our event materials. Receive pictures of our makers with your branded swag or snacks.



Prototype Tier

\$1000

Along with pictures, receive resumes and an email list to connect with over a hundred women from diverse fields at USC.



Product Tier

\$2000

Receive all the previous tier perks and feature during our kickoff, as a keynote speaker, or create a main challenge.

Sponsors & USC Partners

We'd like to give a huge shoutout to our 2017 sponsors & partners, without whom Break to Make would not have been possible. If you're interested in supporting Break to Make 2018, send us and an e-mail at makeathon@sparksc.org.





BREAK TO MAKE

Let's break the mold
to make the future.