



in partnership with

The
Westport
Library...

Maker Faire® Westport

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Maker Faire Westport Results

Another Year of Record Breaking

Westport, CT – The seventh annual Maker Faire Westport was held on Saturday, April 21, 2018. The streak of breaking records continued.

This year's event broke its own records in a number of areas, including: more than tripling its footprint, nearly doubling its number of makers to 200 (up from just over 100 in 2017) and seeing attendance of 13,500, a 30% increase from 2017.

"We continue to be impressed with the quality of the innovative and creative people in Connecticut and beyond. As they inspire our attendees to learn and grow, we see the impact in our communities. Schools, libraries and businesses all benefit from the energy that comes from seeing what others have done." Said Mark Mathias, Founder and Co-Chair of Maker Faire Westport and President of Remarkable STEAM.

"Our continued expansion into multiple stages, a larger footprint and more attendees means that we continue to reach more people which grows the influence we see in our state. It's clear there is a need and an appetite for people to grow not only themselves, but their community," said Alex Giannini Co-Chair of Maker Faire Westport and Manager of Experiential Learning at the Westport Library.

Continuing what was started in 2017, judges awarded "Best of Maker Faire Westport 2018" honors. Nine makers were recognized:

- **Kid's Art** - CJ's 3D Handmade Jewelry
- **Kid's Engineering** - Swim 'Duino
- **Art** - Pink Rhubarb (dyeing)
- **Engineering** - Vorpah the Hexpod
- **History** - Gustave Whitehead 1901 Airplane Half-Size Replica
- **Commercial** - Stepcraft USA (CNC machine)
- **School** - NCC School of Art, Architecture, and Design
- **Special** - Myrmidon Dagorhir Renaissance Village
- **Special** - PlasmaBot

"We were impressed by the wide range of projects, products, and designs on display at this year's Maker Faire Westport. It was difficult to narrow down the many presenters to just a few, but these were the booths and presentations that stood out, and represent the many different styles of 'making' we saw at the Faire," said Michael Miller, one of the judges for the "Best Of" awards, PC Mag blogger and member of the Maker Faire Westport Organizing Committee. Elle Hoover and Joan Miller were the other two judges.

The date for the eighth annual Maker Faire Westport was also announced to be Saturday, April 27, 2019.

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About Remarkable STEAM

Remarkable STEAM is the leading Connecticut organization that promotes innovation and creativity in the areas of STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math). It focuses on support for education and job creation. Remarkable STEAM is a 501(c)(3) organization. Its leadership team founded and through generous community support, finances Maker Faire Westport and supports similar initiatives. It is creating “maker” events and facilities where people can improve their lives and communities.

About the Westport Library

Since 1886, the [Westport Library](#) has been devoted to enriching the intellectual and creative lives of the residents of Westport. Overlooking the scenic Saugatuck River, the Westport Library is a vibrant community hub where people of all ages come to seek information, gain knowledge, exchange ideas and share experiences.

Construction is currently underway on a major renovation project at the Library. Among other exciting features, the renovated space will feature an increased number of conference rooms and quiet areas, an enlarged Library Café, a professional, state-of-the-art recording studio, a larger dedicated MakerSpace and a HackerSpace workshop with prototyping equipment and co-working space. To learn more about the project visit: www.wltransformationproject.org.

The Westport Library earned the prestigious “Five-Star Library” status in 2013, 2015, 2016 and 2017 from Library Journal, the nation’s premier publication for libraries. Only 1% percent of public libraries nationally earned 5 stars.

About Maker Faire

Maker Faire is the Greatest Show (and Tell) on Earth—a family-friendly showcase of invention, creativity and resourcefulness, and a celebration of the Maker Movement. It’s a place where people show what they are making, and share what they are learning.

Makers range from tech enthusiasts to crafters to homesteaders to scientists to garage tinkerers. They are of all ages and backgrounds. The aim of Maker Faire is to entertain, inform, connect and grow this community.

The original Maker Faire event was held in San Mateo, CA and in 2017 celebrated its twelfth annual show with some 1200 makers and 125,000 people in attendance. World Maker Faire New York, the other flagship event, has grown in six years to 900+ makers and 95,000 attendees. Forty larger scale Maker Faires occur in cities around the world—Berlin, Paris, Rome, Tokyo, and Shenzhen to name a few—and over 220 community-driven, independently organized Mini Maker Faires are now being produced in the United States and in 43 other countries around the world.

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