



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## Maker Faire® Milwaukee Call for Makers opens today

Event accepting maker applications May 15 through August 1, 2017

MILWAUKEE, WI – (May 15, 2017) Today, Maker Faire® Milwaukee producers opened the event's Call for Makers. The Call for Makers is a simple, online application for individuals and groups interested in exhibiting at the event on September 23 and 24, 2017, at Wisconsin State Fair Park. The application can be completed at [milwaukee.makerfaire.com](http://milwaukee.makerfaire.com) through August 1, 2017.

Maker Faire Milwaukee is seeking individuals of all ages, groups, schools, companies and organizations that would like to demonstrate what they make and/or how it works in an all-weekend exhibit space; interactive exhibits that facilitate hands-on skill building are encouraged. Maker Faire Milwaukee is a free admission event and non-commercial makers participating to share their project may exhibit free of charge with an accepted application. Commercial makers, who would like to sell their products while demonstrating, are welcome to apply; there is a small fee for Commercial Maker booth space. Event sponsorships are available for corporate entities and/or established companies.

Event producers expect more than 300 exhibitors to participate this year and the Maker application includes the opportunity to participate as a presenter, performer, workshop facilitator, or a [Power Racing Series](#) participant. There is no age minimum for exhibitors, speakers or performers; a parent/guardian is required to sign a waiver for participating minors. Maker Faire Milwaukee highlights projects ranging from garage hobbies and fun inventions at every level to prototypes and new-to-market products. Show producers will highlight makers across a wide variety topics, including robotics; homegrown drones, rockets and RC toys; Arduino and Raspberry Pi projects; food and beverage makers; kit makers; Tesla coils; 3D printers, CNC mills and laser cutters; textile arts and crafts, large-scale art, kinetic art and jewelry making; blacksmithing; woodworking; music; home energy monitoring, sustainability and green tech; radios, vintage computers and game systems; electronics; electric vehicles; science, biology/biotech and chemistry projects; bicycles; architecture and shelter (tents, domes, etc.); unusual tools or machines; how to fix things or take them apart (vacuums, clocks, washing machines, etc.); student projects (robotics, science clubs, culinary arts, etc.); and other projects of interest to share with an appreciative audience in the spirit of education, community improvement and economic development.

Maker Faire Milwaukee, which is the largest free event of its kind in the nation, is locally produced by the Betty Brinn Children's Museum under a license from Maker Media, Inc., and is co-hosted by the Museum and Milwaukee Makerspace.

## About the Betty Brinn Children's Museum

The [Betty Brinn Children's Museum](#) serves more than 240,000 people annually and produces Maker Faire Milwaukee as part of its *Maker Initiative*. The *Initiative* was established in 2013 and expands the organization's core "learning by doing" mission to the larger community through year-round maker programs at the Museum, outreach and other activities. The *Maker Initiative* represents a critical investment in education, and in Milwaukee's long-term economic and workforce development.

Our *Maker Initiative* includes:

- an 800-square foot *Be A Maker Space* that offers daily open making for Museum visitors, workshops and events;
- maker field trip programs that meet national academic standards and developmental milestones for early learners;
- *Maker Faire Milwaukee*, produced in partnership with Milwaukee Makerspace. The Faire, now in its fourth year, attracts more than 300 exhibitors and 50,000 attendees;
- *A Making in Education Community of Practice*, offering year-round professional development opportunities to local K-12 classroom educators, administrators and others in the field interested in bringing making into area schools;
- extensive community outreach efforts, including a new pilot program that brings monthly maker programs to some of Milwaukee's high-needs neighborhoods, with partners that include the Milwaukee Public Library, neighborhood schools and social service agencies;
- education research, including two outcomes studies of maker field trip programs conducted in partnership with the University of Wisconsin-Madison, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and Marquette University; and
- local, regional and national advocacy about the impact of the Maker Movement on education, workforce training and economic development.

The Museum is the Wisconsin ambassador for Nation of Makers and Museum staff are active members of the Global Maker Faire Producers Group.

## About the Milwaukee Makerspace

The [Milwaukee Makerspace](#) is a 16,000-square-foot collaborative workshop in Milwaukee's Bay View neighborhood where members – professionals, hobbyists, artists, crafters and students – share their tools, knowledge and their passion for making.

## About Maker Faire

[Maker Faire](#) is the Greatest Show (and Tell) on Earth -- a family-friendly showcase of invention, creativity, and resourcefulness, and celebration of the Maker Movement. It's a place where people of all ages and backgrounds gather together to show what they are making and share what they are learning.

Maker Faire celebrated 191 Faires in 2016 in 38 countries, reaching 1.45 million people around the world. The 11th annual Maker Faire Bay Area welcomed some 1,300 Makers and 150,000 attendees.

Located in San Francisco, California, [Maker Media](#) has been widely credited with jumpstarting the worldwide Maker Movement, which has been a transforming force in innovation, culture, and education. In addition to publishing Make: magazine and producing Maker Faire, Maker Media develops "getting started" kits and books it sells through its [Maker Shed](#) store as well as other retail channels.

Maker Faire Bay Area 2017 at the San Mateo Event Center in San Mateo, CA, will be held Friday-Sunday, May 19-21, 2017. Find a Maker Faire near you at [makerfaire.com/map](http://makerfaire.com/map). More information about Maker Faire can be found at [makerfaire.com](http://makerfaire.com).

## Make Magazine

[MAKE](#) is the first magazine devoted entirely to Do-It-Yourself (DIY) technology projects. MAKE unites, inspires, informs, and entertains a growing community of resourceful people who undertake amazing projects in their backyards, basements, and garages. MAKE celebrates your right to tweak, hack, and bend any technology to your will. Download a free issue [here](#).

## Besides the magazine and the faire, Make is:

- a vital online stream of news and projects, [makezine.com](http://makezine.com);
- a retail outlet for kits and books, the [Maker Shed](#);
- a steady stream of fun and instruction via our [YouTube channel](#);
- [Make: Projects](#), a library of projects with step-by-step instructions; and
- a publisher of best-in category titles via [Make: Books](#), including introduction to electronics, Raspberry Pi, 3D printing, Arduino and more.

## Calendar Editors

A celebration of innovation and DIY culture, Maker Faire Milwaukee 2017 runs Saturday-Sunday, Sept. 23-24, at Wisconsin State Fair Park, 640 South 84th St., Milwaukee. Admission is free. [milwaukee.makerfaire.com](http://milwaukee.makerfaire.com)

## Social Media

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Follow us on Twitter: [@MkeMakerFaire](#)

## Maker Faire Milwaukee 2017 Sponsors

Maker Faire Milwaukee 2017 sponsors include: *Silversmith*: Rockwell Automation; *Nerdy Derby*: Kohl's; *Coppersmith*: GE Healthcare, and Weld Specialty Gas & Equipment Company and Miller Electric; and *Blacksmith*: National Mango Board, SeeMeCNC, PPG and Taste of Home.

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