

Welcome! You are joining Making Matters at an extremely exciting time! Not only do you get to use tools you don't have room for at home, learn new skills, and enjoy the community here, you also have a chance to help your fledgling makerspace continue to grow. We are actively seeking volunteers for tasks large and small, from sorting donated hand tools to building infrastructure projects like our rolling partitions or workbenches to attending planning and board meetings to provide feedback. We also welcome help with fundraising, asking employers to provide corporate sponsorships, or simply sharing our classes on social media.

Once you join you will receive your invitation to join our "Slack" online community. While we publish our news and events on our website, social media accounts and in our newsletter, Slack is where you will hear about everything first and in more detail. It also serves as your makerspace community chat room. Please check it out!

We hope you are as enthusiastic about making – and making a better makerspace – as we are. Our imaginations may have no limits, but our finances and volunteer bandwidth do. On the flip side of this welcome letter you will find a partial list of ideas we have flirted with or initiatives we have considered. As new plans are greenlit you will see them discussed over Slack and in meetings; we also use project planning online that will let you know at a glance what is underway but if there is something you have thought of that we haven't do please let us know or better yet, make it happen.

Happy Making!

Signed,

Your board of directors at Making Matters

Next steps, serious thoughts, and pipe dreams:

Community Garden
Welding and plasma cutting
Bicycle repair tools and classes
Beekeeping
Community kitchen
Bridgework Mill classes
Linux classes
3D printing in resin
Children's science camp
Approach local business about sponsorships,
cross marketing, partnerships
Hold a fundraising gala
Hold a making fair

Get a CNC embroidery machine
Have more than one lathe!
Do a "Parents Night Out" where children have a
separate crafting event

Member potlucks
Post volunteer opportunities on our website
Write newsletters for different interest groups
(woodworking, quilting)

Festivals on the front lawn
Ski waxing station
Lockable member storage
Food truck rentals
Dance studio
Computer Network career training
Linux classes
Piano lessons
Website for NH Counsel of Makerspaces
Partner with the Guild of NH Woodworkers on
small meetings and classes
Do a drive where you can buy a "brick" in a mural
Do "pop up" makerspaces in parts of the state
not served by one
Do a formal internship program
Allow (sell) advertising on our web site
Have one of those painting sessions where
everyone creates a masterpiece and also brings
their own liquid refreshments
Host robot wars
Do a podcast or even a "vlog"
Have an Artist-In-Residence program