

# CADL Makerspace

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Coopersville Area District Library

# Overview

- Introduction to the library
- Importance of the Makerspace
- Recent activities
- Future plans for the Makerspace

# Introduction to the library

- Location
  - Rural town in western Michigan
  - Halfway between Grand Rapids and the lakeshore
- Service area
  - Chester, Polkton, and Wright Townships
  - The city of Coopersville
  - Population 11842 = Class III
- New construction
  - November 2015: Bond millage passes
  - September 2016: Renovation and expansion begins
  - May 2017: Grand re-opening

- Library staff are strong makers.
- 2016 expansion and renovation made a huge difference in opportunity for making. We now have room to offer making during open hours.
- Library is still learning what works and finding ways to incorporate making with other activities in the new community/makerspace room.

# Importance of Making in the Library

- Integrates book knowledge with hands on doing.
- Fosters creativity and collaboration.
- Promotes social interaction.
- An antidote to digital addiction – helps limit screen time.
- Teaches valuable skills.
- Expands the library's use in the community.
- Good use of tax payer money – patrons don't have to purchase equipment if the library will and offer open time for usage.

# The Community Responds to Making Opportunities @ the Library

- The old library space had no room for making – we did it anyway.
- Making @ the library was promoted throughout the 2015 millage campaign as a modern library service.
- Citizens responded positively to the idea. They want space to learn and create and people to lead the making.
- Children's services expanded – adult services expanded
- response to making activities @ the library = amount of need for technology education @ the library

# Making in the library's old space

## Gingerbread House Making

A drop in family event offered in the evening at Christmas Time.

### Materials Needed

Cardboard – library provided a cardboard house form

Decorate with

Dry Cereal – Fruitloops

Licorice

M&M's

Gumdrops

Chocolate kisses

Glue





# Legos

## Ages 5 – 12

Children's librarian offers a theme for every Lego making event.  
Kids are free to expand on the theme provided.



## Lego Themes We've Tried

Build a Vehicle – race to follow building

Create something from your favorite video game or movie

Build Your Favorite Food

Make a Pirate Ship

Build a Dinosaur



# Little Bits – Ages 8 – 12

littleBits makes technology kits that are fun, easy-to-use, and infinitely creative. The kits are composed of electronic building blocks that are color-coded, magnetic, and make complex technology simple and fun. Together they're interchangeable in millions of different ways to empower kids to invent anything - from a sibling alarm, to a wireless robot, to a digital instrument.

## Themes We've Tried

Create a Pet that makes a sound

Build a Game

Build a machine that draws





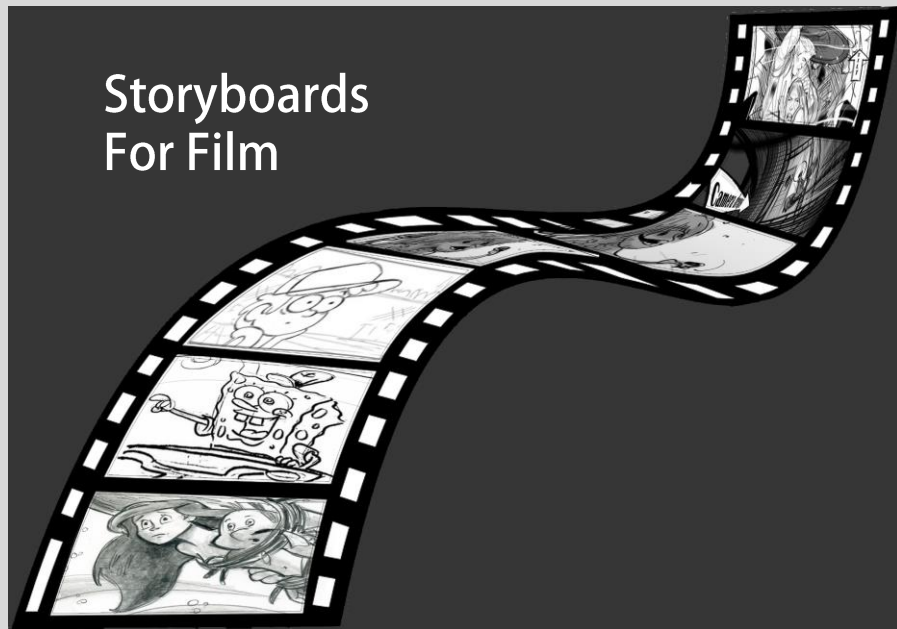
# Dr. Seuss Maker Event

An annual event that features lots of different making. We have found great ideas for this event on Pinterest



# Teen Film Making Workshop

The library received an \$8,000 grant from the Coopersville Rotary Club to purchase two MAC computers, a movie camera, several small portable still cameras and other various equipment to support film creation at the library.



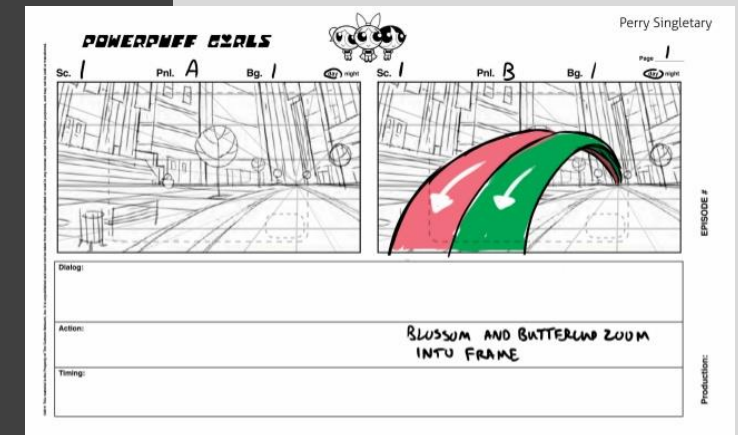
## What the What is a Storyboard?

A Storyboard is the step between writing and filming. It helps you with:

- Pacing
- Angles
- Dialogue timing
- Feasibility
- The Number One Rule of Movie Making\*

\*according to Jackie

Email me for a copy of the  
Basic Film Mechanics tutorial pdf.  
Storyboard For Film Power Point  
[coolm@lcoop.org](mailto:coolm@lcoop.org)





Teen Film Festival – August during Del Shannon Days which is an annual community event.

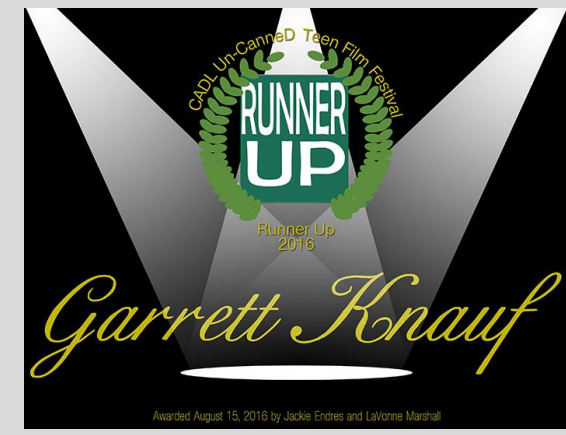
Local Sponsors provide prize money

People's Choice Award - \$100

Teen films are uploaded to the library's UnCanned Teen Film Festival Facebook Page so the community can vote for their favorite film  
A public viewing of the films takes place at the library in the new community room.

Coopersville Area Arts Council Award - \$75

Juror's Prize – Assorted goodies in a prize package  
<https://www.facebook.com/CADL.TFF/>





# Wreath Making Workshop

In the old library – Notice the Makerspace Banner? We create our own reality....Make and they will come 😊



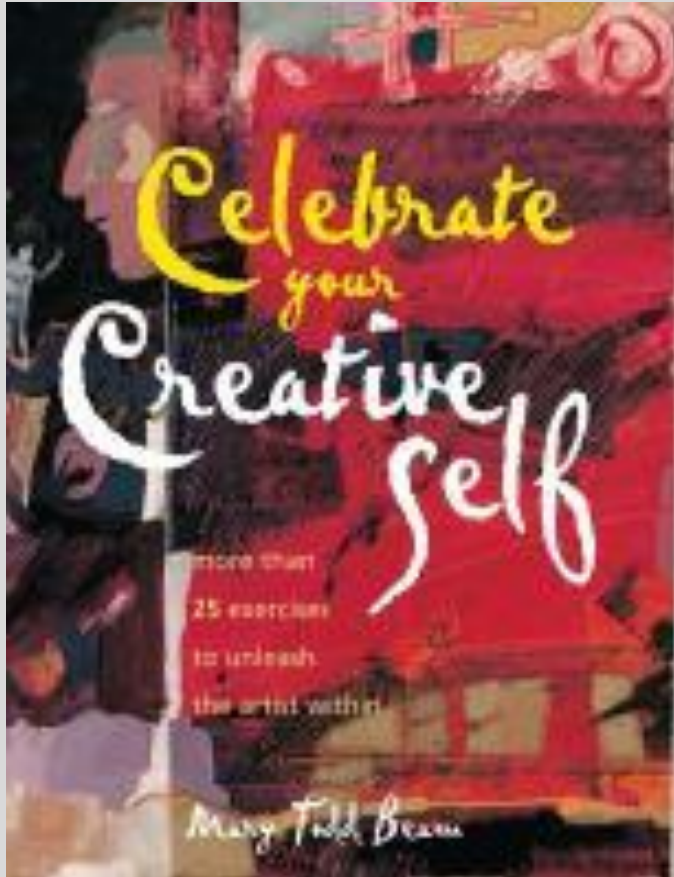
## Materials:

Foam Core Ring Base  
Pine Cones – LOTS  
Burlap Ribbon  
Decorative Ribbon  
Florist Wire  
Hot Glue Guns  
Keep it simple  
Provide a sample

The library offered this on Saturday after Thanksgiving for those that would rather make than shop...it was popular.



# Art Making Workshop for Adult Makers



This was a 6 week course for adults

I used the book, “Celebrate Your Creative Self” by Mary Todd Beam from our collection as a jumping off point.

The book includes great lists of needed materials and open ended projects that can be applied to a variety of visual ideas and subject matter.

I started the series by focusing on one of the projects in this book. It took two nights to finish the project.

I then asked participants to apply the same technique to a subject of their choosing.

We learned about different art materials

Composition

Color

It was a big success.

# Forest Floor Project

Adult Art at the Library is a popular making event.

Keep it open ended.

Provide participants with

Painting the  
**FOREST FLOOR**

You can sharpen your painting skills by delving into your imagination for images. Take your viewfinder out to the woods to look for design and to block out excess material from your image.

The forest floor or decaying matter can come a metaphor for the passage of time. Nature uses her painting skills of precipitation, sedimentation and erosion, and we can become a part of that creative process through imitation. We will use adhesive shelf liner, paint, and printing and floating to create

**PAINTING A TINY ECOSYSTEM**

Think of this view of the area at your feet as a small world in itself. Where are the actors? Make it a varied view: soft edges against hard, and smooth against rough, changing color and value.

**1: PREPARE SURFACE AND APPLY SHAPES**

Wax the edges of your board or watercolor paper to avoid paint seepage, and apply a rough and organic gesso surface, leaving in drips and scrapes as they fall. Let dry. Cut out simple leaf shapes from your adhesive shelf liner and stick them on the surface. This will be the lightest value, and we will work to create the illusion of looking through layers of debris.

**2: CREATE THE "MUD"**

Make mud using your sedimentary watercolors. You can include some staining colors, but keep them to a minimum. Float large, flat washes over the board using a nice thick coat of paint. You can use a mixture of Burnt Sienna with a small amount of blue to give a darker brown.

**3: STIR UP THE SURFACE**

Fleck on flow enhancer to create a small amount of precipitation. A bear comes along and licks up some leaves, so use your lifting techniques. Lift out sticks that run clear through the whole painting.

**4: CREATE MORE DEPTH**

Drop in Quinacridone Gold in any wet areas to create some darker dappled areas.

**5: APPLY PLASTIC**

Cut a leaf out of your heavier weight plastic and lay it in the wet areas of the painting to create yet another dimension. Cut a piece of light-weight plastic and crumple it. Lay it into your wet painting. Allow it to dry.

**6: LIFT OFF PLASTIC AND PREPARE SURFACE FOR MORE PAINT**

Once the paint has dried, you can lift off the plastic sheets and adhesive shelf liner. If you have an adhesive liner shape you'd like to leave in place, feel free. Use a brush and clean water to go back into the painting and lift out any additional stick shapes, blotting with a paper towel as you go. The paint lifts easily from the gessoed surface.

**7: SOFTEN WHITES**

Use your wet foam brush to soften the harsh white of the leaves by painting water around the leaf edges and loosening the color.

**MATERIALS LIST**

Canvas or watercolor paper

Brushes and small flats

Colors: Yellow Ochre, Burnt Sienna, Alizarin Crimson, Phthalo Blue

Acrylics: Quinacridone Gold

Adhesive shelf liner (Con-Tact paper brand from your local grocery store works just fine.)

White and colored pencils

Flow enhancer

Heavy and light-weight plastic wrap

# Recent activities

- Ongoing programming
  - Knitting Club
  - LEGOS & Little Bits
  - Teen Advisory Board (T.A.B.)
- Special events
  - Teen film festival
  - Holiday Makerspace





The library's new Community/Makerspace Room

### Holiday Makerspace Event Projects

1. paperback book trees
2. Bauble ornaments
3. Origami star ornaments
3. Wrapping paper printing – not a success ☹️

## Holiday Makerspace 2017





Paperback Book Trees

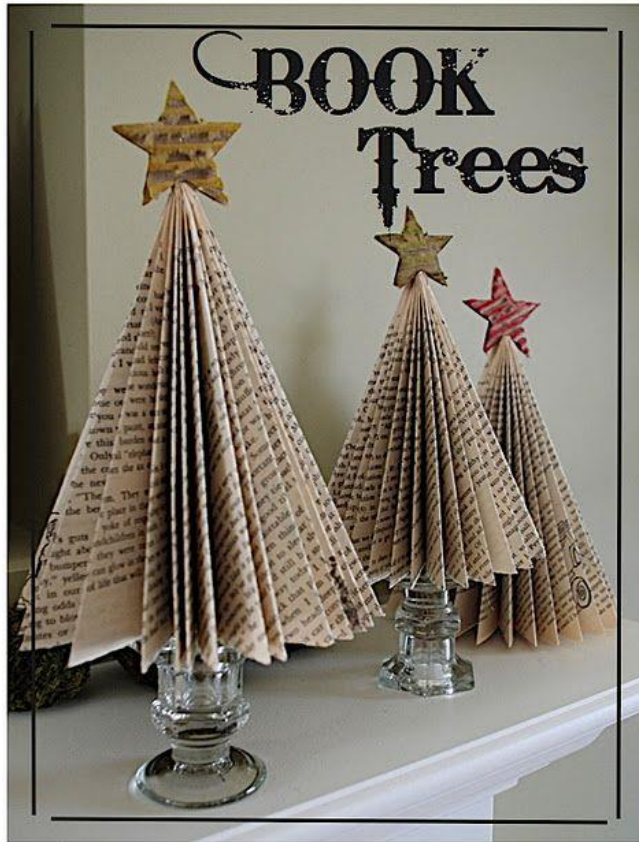
Baubles

Paper Chain

Wrapping Paper Printing

Origami Stars

DIY Christmas Baubles







This will be an annual event.  
Super fun for all ages.  
The Friends of the Library provided cookies and a juicebox.

What didn't work

1. Not enough little kids crafts so they tried adult crafts and needed lots of help..
2. Wrapping Paper Printing had some technical issues.



# Knitting Club

- Who: An eclectic group of women of all ages with varied experience in knitting and interest in fiber arts
- Started in 2015 – offered knitting “lessons” and started with a group project
- Quickly learned that there was a LOT of experienced knitters willing to share and help beginners.
- Shared yarn, shared patterns, shared digital resources (this was new to many knitters, more on that later)
- Conversation – friendships were formed and others strengthened



# What do we make?

The group started with instruction on a group project. Many learned to knit with this project. After 3 years we still offer group projects, but participants also knit their own projects and share patterns. There may be a couple knitting one pattern and another group project going at the same time.

Project Amigo  
[www.projectamigo.org](http://www.projectamigo.org)

- Group Knitting Projects



Nola's Slippers

<http://cas.seamenschurch.org/sites/default/files/sci-nolas-slippers.pdf>



Clamshell Geometric Pillow

<https://www.ravelry.com/patterns/library/pillow-clamshell-geometric>



Coiled Rugs



Stepping Stones Shawl

<https://www.ravelry.com/patterns/library/stepping-stones-shawl>

# Knitting – Digital Tutorials

Many of the participants were unaware that online resources existed. I believe that is one reason why people continue to participate. They learn something new every time they come to knit. The library hosts regular video tutorials as part of weekly knitting.

Digital resources available to knitters.

- Some of our favorite digital sources are:

Ravelry.com ★★★★★

*Ravelry* is a community site, an organizational tool, and a yarn & pattern database for knitting and crochet.

- Purlbee - ★★★★★ <https://www.purlsoho.com/>  
a high-end making website that has sewing and fiber project tutorials, some free patterns, yarn and patterns and projects for sale. Super fun to look at.
- The Knitting Space - ★★★★★ <https://theknittingspace.com>  
Lofts of patterns and tutorials.

# Teen Advisory Board (T.A.B.)

- Who: local Teens and Tweens
- What: Teen Advisory Board is responsible for brainstorming and planning library events for teens. They meet bi-monthly for snacks and crafts as well as to share their opinions about the development of the library.
- When: 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays, 3:00-4:30 p.m.



# Future plans for the Makerspace

- Equipment
  - Button maker
  - Die-cut machine
  - 3-D printer
- Future Planned Events
  - “Take-It-Apart” for kids of all ages.  
find out how things work by dismantling electronics.
  - Summer Reading Club 2018  
Weekly Maker space opportunities

# Questions?

- Contact information
  - Email: [coolm@llcoop.org](mailto:coolm@llcoop.org)
  - Phone: 616-837-6809
  - Website: [www.coopersvillelibrary.org](http://www.coopersvillelibrary.org)