Teens invited to ‘Make AC’ at Main Library’s new Makerspace

Library opens new area for teenagers during National Library Week

Once the Atlantic City Free Public Library learned it would receive funding to create a Teen Makerspace, staff put the project on the fast track to ensure it would open during National Library Week.

Though the work took just a few months from start to finish, the Makerspace’s opening on April 14 couldn’t arrive quickly enough for Teen Services Librarian Megan England.

“For weeks — as we have been putting together all of this equipment, getting everything set up, tested and ready — teens have been coming up to me and saying, ‘Oh, what’s that? Can I try it? How does it work?’ It has been killing me to say, ‘no, you can’t try it just yet. We’re not quite ready.’ ”

Before a room of city and library officials and staff members at the Main Library, England was thrilled — and relieved — to let the teens know that their wait was finally over.

“Explore, learn, have fun, be creative,” she said. “Find a talent that you never knew you had.”

With the audience looking on, England and the teenagers unveiled the equipment that is part of the Makerspace, which is located in the Main Library’s Teen Lounge. The teens, who will be invited to “Make AC: Dream It, Design It, Do It,” will have access to a 3-D printer, digital audio recording, photography

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Picture this: Library to showcase student art

The ACFPL Kids Art Gallery grand opening will be June 21

The students who participate in the Atlantic City Free Public Library's weekly Comic Drawing classes will have the opportunity to showcase their artwork this summer.

The grand opening for the ACFPL Kids Art Gallery will be held 2 p.m. Saturday, June 21, in the Main Library's second-floor meeting room. The art will remain on display for one month.

Marvel/DC Comics illustrator Joe Del Beato teaches the classes, which are held at 3:30 p.m. on Thursdays. The classes are for kids ages 9 to 17. Upcoming classes will be held on May 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29, and June 5, 12 and 19. The classes are free.

The Comic Drawing classes often feature timely themes. Del Beato and the students will focus on Asian characters and design elements in May, which is Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month.

Form more information about the Kids Art Gallery or Comic Drawing lessons, please call (609) 345-2269, ext. 3050.

Library Day at the Aquarium coming May 10

The Atlantic City Free Public Library is holding Library Day at the Atlantic City Aquarium on Saturday, May 10. This special event will include ocean-themed crafts, air tattoos, storytelling, diving and animal shows.

Those interested in attending can pick up two free admission tickets at the Main Library Youth Services Department. Library cardholders also have the option of picking up their two tickets at the Richmond Branch Library. Free tickets are limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Call (609) 345-2269, ext. 3050, or visit the Youth Services Desk for more information.

SUMMER READING KICKOFF PARTY: June 26

The Atlantic City Free Public Library will throw a party 2 p.m. Thursday, June 26, to kick off its Summer Reading Program for children and teenagers. This year’s theme is Fizz Boom Read. The launch party is for kids ages 17 and younger and will include stories, games, refreshments and special guests. Those who sign up for the program at the party will get to take home a free book to start their summer of reading. Please call (609) 345-2269, ext. 3050, for more information.
ADULT PROGRAMS

Call (609) 345-2269, ext. 3112, for more information.

Sports Pep Talk
Thursday, May 1, at 16 p.m., at the Noyes Arts Garage Stockton College (2200 Fairmount Ave.)
Learn about what it takes to report on the local sports scene. NBC40 Sports Director Pete Thompson and Press of Atlantic City Sports Editor Mark Melhorn will be the guest speakers.

Flashback Friday Archives: Atlantic City Sports Artifacts Share and Tell
Friday, May 2, at 1 p.m., at the Noyes Arts Garage Stockton College (2200 Fairmount Ave.)
Atlantic City Historical Museum Coordinator Beth Ryan will talk about some of the sports memorabilia exhibited in the Atlantic City Experience: Devotion and Determination exhibit at the Noyes Arts Garage Stockton College. Also, bring your own sports artifacts to discuss.

Monthly Crafts for Adults: Alcohol Ink Coasters
Monday, May 5, at 10:30 a.m.
We’ll spread alcohol over tiles and squeeze drops of color onto the tile. We’ll move the ink around in different ways, creating all sorts of interesting effects.

Film Based on the Book Series: 12 Years a Slave
Saturday, May 24, at 1 p.m.
Join us for the film 12 Years a Slave, which won a 2013 Academy Award. A talk about how the movie relates to the book by Solomon Northup will follow.

Monthly Crafts for Adults: Glass Painting
Monday, June 2, at 10:30 a.m.
Either on glass or water color paper we will draw a flower or design of choice with oil pastel crayons, brush water on the design and put pieces of tissue paper over it. The colors bleed onto the design, resulting in a beautiful creation.

Flashback Friday Archives: Protect Your Collections from a Disaster
Friday, June 6 at 1 p.m.
Library staff will discuss tips on some of the dos and don’ts of caring for your valuable personal collections, and how to protect them from potential disasters.

Film Based on the Book Series: Argo
Saturday, June 28, at 1 p.m.
You’re invited to watch the film Argo — a 2012 Academy Award winner — and discuss how relates to the book by Antonio Mendez and Matt Baglio.

Jewish American Heritage Month Book Discussion with Leo B. Schoffer
Wednesday, May 21, at 6 p.m.
Please see story on page 1 for details.

The Atlantic City Free Public Library
is a service of the City of Atlantic City
VISIT US ON THE WEB AT WWW.ACFPL.ORG
TEEN PROGRAMS

Call (609) 345-2269, ext. 3050, for more information.

One-on-One Appointments for Teens
Need advice about what kind of college to look for, resumes and cover letters, first jobs, or career options? Need help using library online resources, e-books, or doing research? You can get one-on-one help from our teen librarian. Call 609-345-2269 ext. 3050 or e-mail menglish@acfl.org to set up an appointment.

Make It: To Go! – Squishy Stress Relief Ball
Take home a kit to make squishy stress-relief ball in May in honor of Mental Health Awareness Month! Pick up your kit in the teen area of Youth Services. Available while supplies last. Supplies are limited. Ages 10-18.

Teen Art Series – Comic/Manga Wall Art & Jewelry
Saturday, May 3, at 2 p.m.
Celebrate Free Comic Book Day by learning to make wall art, necklaces, earrings, hair accessories, shoes, magnets and more using old comic and manga pages. Not into comics or manga? You can still learn the techniques and use alternate materials.

Free ACT Practice Exam
Saturday, May 17, at 10 a.m.
You’ve tried the SAT – now see how your score compares on the ACT. Registration is REQUIRED for this full four-hour practice test, administered by Kaplan. Study materials are available. E-mail menglish@acfl.org or call (609) 345-2269 ext. 3050, to sign up. There is no fee to participate. We’ll have snacks, hang out, and play video games when it’s over.

Teen Book Club
Tuesday, May 27, at 4 p.m.
Our book club is awesome because we give you a FREE copy of the book to keep. Forever! Grab your copy at the Youth Services desk and join us for snacks, drinks, and discussion at our monthly meeting, even if you don’t have time to finish the book.

ACT Practice Exam Give-Backs
Wednesday, May 28, at 6 p.m.
Those who took our free practice ACT exam on May 17th will receive their full score reports and helpful testing tips from a Kaplan instructor.

Teen Advisory Group Meeting
Saturday, May 31, at 3 p.m.
Thursday, June 26, at 12 p.m.
TAG is our teen volunteer organization that plans teen events, tells the library what materials we should buy, and coordinates volunteer opportunities, all while eating free pizza! Please note that our June meeting is on Thursday this time, so we can meet before the summer reading kickoff party.

Make It: To Go! – Summer Socktopus
Take home a kit to make a stuffed octopus out of a sock! Pick up your kit in the teen area of youth services. Available in June while supplies last. Supplies are limited. Ages 10-18.

Summer Reading Prep Party
Thursday, June 5, at 2 p.m.
You have half a school day, so come de-stress and gear up for summer! Participate in the Silent Library Challenge, the Teen Photo Scavenger Hunt, and help deck out the library in summer décor.

Teen Art Series – Design Your Own Buttons
Saturday, June 14, at 2 p.m.
Learn how to use graphic design software to create your own buttons, then use our brand new button machine to make your own pin-back 1.5” buttons! Makerspace membership encouraged but not required.

Teen Book Club
Tuesday, June 24, at 4 p.m.
Our book club is awesome because we give you a FREE copy of the book to keep. Forever! Grab your copy at the Youth Services desk and join us for snacks, drinks, and discussion at our monthly meeting, even if you don’t have time to finish the book.

PROGRAMS @ RICHMOND AVENUE

Call (609) 340-0215, for more information.

Story Time Fridays
Fridays at 11:30 a.m.
May 2, 9, 16, 23, 30, and June 6, 13, 20, 27
Includes stories and finger plays for children. Families and siblings are welcome. Best for ages 9 and younger.

Crafty Tuesdays
Tuesdays at 4:30 p.m.
May 6, 20 and June 3, 17
Kids ages 6-14 will use their imaginations to make and take home crafts with seasonal themes.

All children under 9 must be accompanied by an adult or guardian.
CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS
Call (609) 345-2269, ext. 3050, for more information.

Need Homework Help?
Call Youth Services (609) 345-2269, ext. 3050, to make an appointment with a librarian for personalized homework and information literacy help.

Pre-school Rhyme Time
Thursdays at 10:30 a.m.
May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, and June 5, 12, 19
Rhyme Time features stories, songs, finger plays and crafts. The May 1 Rhyme Time is "Mother Goose Magic!" Mother Goose Day is an international holiday celebrating the classic Mother Goose Tales. Join Mother Goose (Miss Cheryl) and Goosy Gander as she performs magic to children's nursery rhymes. Mother Goose Magic has games, lively music, dance and of course ... magic! Ages 2-5 for Rhyme Time and 8 and younger for Mother Goose Magic.

Baby Bounce and Play Group
Thursdays at 11:30 a.m.
May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, and June 5, 12, 19
This program is designed to introduce infants (ages 0-24 months) to the world of sounds and stories.

Comic Drawing
Thursdays at 3:30 p.m.
May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29, and June 5, 12, 19
Please see story page 2 for details.

Creative Crafts
Tuesdays at 3:30 p.m.
May 6, 20 and June 3, 17
Kids use their imagination to make crafts with seasonal themes. Children less than 9 years of age must be accompanied by an adult/guardian. Ages 6-12.

Library Day at the Aquarium
Saturday, May 10, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Please see story on page 2 for details.

Tween Days in the Teen Lounge
Saturdays at 11 a.m.
May 10, 24 and June 7, 21
Tweeners are invited to enjoy gaming in the Teen Space: Xbox360, PS3, Nintendo Wii. Participants need a library card in good standing to participate. Ages 9-12.

LEGO Club
Saturdays at 2 p.m.
May 10, 24 and June 7, 21
Use our LEGOs and your imagination to create something spectacular. Ages 6-12.

Children Book Club
Saturdays at 3 p.m.
May 10, 24 and June 7, 21
Share a great book then learn how to make an interactive poster about it. The May meetings will celebrate Asian Pacific Heritage Month. Any child who joins the program also receives a free copy of the book to keep. Registration required. Call (609) 345-2269, ext. 3050. Best for ages 8-11.

Homeschool Open House
Friday, May 30, at 10:30 a.m.
Learn how to get the most out of your public library! Drop by to meet the Youth Services staff, and find out about new materials and programs the library has to offer homeschoolers. Reservations required. Call (609) 345-2269, ext. 3050.

ACFPL Kids Art Gallery
Saturday, June 21, at 2 p.m.
Please see story on page 2 for details.

Summer Reading Program Kickoff Party
Thursday, June 26, at 2 p.m.
Please see story on page 2 for details.

ESL CLASSES: English as a Second Language
Call (609) 345-2269, ext. 3079; or, visit the Help Desk for more information.

Intermediate ESL
Mondays from 1 to 3:30 p.m.
May 5, 12, 19, and June 2, 9, 23, 30
Listen, read, practice conversation, learn writing techniques, new vocabulary, pronunciation and proper grammar. All levels are welcome to attend.

Advance registration is required
Those interested in attending English as a Second Language classes must register. Registration is on a first-come, first-served basis. Classes are open to adult Atlantic City Library members. Applications are available at the Help Desk at the Main Library. All sessions take place in the Main Library meeting room.

ALL PROGRAMS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

THE LIBRARY WILL BE CLOSED ON MAY 26
FUN DAY SUNDAY: Programs for the whole family

Registration is required. Call (609) 345-2269, ext. 3050, to register. Nobody will be admitted after 2:15 p.m.

Celebrate Cinco de Mayo
Sunday, May 4, at 2 p.m.
Papel picado is a decorative craft made out of paper, cut into elaborate designs. It’s considered a Mexican folk art. Make decorative fiesta flags cut from colorful tissue paper using themes such as bird, floral designs and skeletons.

Bouquets for Mothers Day
Sunday, May 11, at 2 p.m.
Make easy and beautiful flower cards for mom or someone special.

Celebrate Asian Pacific Heritage Month: Asian Folktales and Origami
Sunday, May 18, at 2 p.m.
Join us for folktales, games, and hands-on paper folding. Learn how to make your own origami action model, put a bunch of them together and create a domino effect.

May Flowers
Sunday, May 25, at 2 p.m.
Who knew coffee filters could look so pretty? Coffee filters are wonderfully delicate looking and absorbent – they’re perfect for dying! Participants will use a water color technique to create intense color and accents and a lovely variety of looks.

Glass Painting
Sunday, June 1, at 2 p.m.
Create beautiful and unique designs on glass using straws.

Bean Mosaic Art
Sunday, June 8, at 2 p.m.
Create your own colorful mosaic using dried beans. This fun and easy mosaic craft is a skill building activity that helps develop your child’s fine motor skills. Participants group colors together to form patterns and shapes with a piece of cardboard, glue, and some dried beans.

Father’s Day Craft: Animal and Flower Mobile
Sunday, June 15, at 2 p.m.
Learn about the ancient art of ebru (marbleizing paper) and create a spring themed mobile.

What’s Happening for Kids & Teens
This Summer @ the Library
Sunday, June 22, at 2 p.m.
Come meet Youth Services staff, enjoy light refreshments and hear about free summer library programs for kids and teens. Check out our collection, do a simple craft to take home and sign up for the Summer Reading Program.

Summer Fun Crazy Cookie Bash
Sunday, June 29, at 2 p.m.
Kids will enjoy creating their own cookie masterpieces and, of course, eating them at the library. Staff judges will select the most creative cookie decorations. Each contestant may decorate one cookie to be judged. Participants may be accompanied by an adult or older sibling but must do all of the decorating alone. It’s also a great time to learn about the library summer reading program. Adults must be accompanied by a child. Ages 6 to 13.

COMPUTER TRAINING

Call (609) 345-2269, ext. 3079; or, visit the Help Desk for information.

Email Setup and Practice
Tuesdays, May 6 and June 3, 24, from 1 to 3:30 p.m.
Tuesdays, May 20 and June 10, from 5 to 7:30 p.m.
Come to this computer class without a valid email address and leave with one!

Job Skills Workshop
Tuesdays, May 6 and June 3, 24, from 5 to 7:30 p.m.
Tuesdays, May 27 and June 17, from 1 to 3:30 p.m.
Learn about the job resources available at the ACFPL. Search for jobs, and apply for jobs online. An instructor will be there to guide you. All veterans are strongly encouraged to attend.

A valid email address is needed to perform many important tasks, such as applying for jobs online. Learn how to access your email, compose emails, send emails, view your incoming emails, and attach documents.

Basic Internet and Typing Skills
Tuesdays, May 20 and June 10, from 1 to 3:30
Tuesdays, May 27 and June 17, from 5 to 7:30
Learn the basics of the Internet and typing. Learn how to visit different websites, and how to position your hands on the keyboard and which fingers to use for which keys. Practice in class under an instructor’s guidance, and discover a free online typing program to practice on your own.

(Classes are on a first-come, first-served basis. Attendees must bring their Atlantic City Library card to class).
and video equipment, robotics, a sewing machine and fiber arts, and more.

"When you involve young people in the hands-on (experiences) and allow them to create, that’s where the real wisdom comes in," said Ron Cash, Atlantic City’s Director of Health and Human Services.

The Makerspace is for teens ages 13 to 18 years old. Those interested in using the Makerspace must have an Atlantic City Free Public Library card in good standing.

England said that the Makerspace represents a great opportunity for Atlantic City teens to discover where their talents lie.

“How are you going to know that you have the talent to be the next big DJ, the next great photographer if you never have the chance to use the equipment?” she said. “How are you going to know if you have the talent for building in your hands if nobody ever lets you hold a drill? That’s what this Makerspace is about. Libraries are in the business of providing opportunities in a big way. I can’t wait to see what you can do.”

The Atlantic City Free Public Library is one of 15 libraries statewide to be awarded funding for this project.

Funding for this Makerspace Initiative is provided by the New Jersey State Library and by LibraryLinkNJ, The New Jersey Library Cooperative, whose services are funded by the New Jersey State Library, which is responsible for

(Top) Staff member Nazifa Chowdhury discusses the 3-D printer with Library Board of Trustees President William Cheatham. Teenagers check out the digital audio recording equipment (middle) and a sewing machine (bottom).

the coordination, promotion, and funding of the New Jersey Library Network.

Call (609) 345-2269, ext. 3050, for more information about the Makerspace.

HOW I ACFPL: Abdul Hai

Abdul Hai, who is an Atlantic City resident, was born in Pakistan. He takes all of the computer and ESL classes at the Atlantic City Library.

"Downstairs I use computers every day (for) one hour for typing and looking at the news and everything. ... I (take) computer classes. ... I come here (for ESL classes) three months. ..."

"I take movies in the library. Hindi movies, Urdu language, and I watch them.

"That’s how I ACFPL."

So, we’d love to know … how do you ACFPL? To tell us your story, email dlatham@acfl.org; or, call (609) 345-2269, ext. 3112.
Smithsonian exhibit in town until May 4

Those wishing to view the Hometown Teams and Atlantic City Experience: Devotion and Determination sports exhibits have a limited time to do so.

The library has hosted both exhibits at the Noyes Arts Garage Stockton College since March 22. The exhibits will be on display until May 4. The Smithsonian Institution created the Hometown Teams exhibit, while library staff developed the Devotion and Determination exhibit.

Please call (609) 345-2269, ext. 3064, for more information.