

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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What Do Combat Robots, Biotech Experiments, and Handcrafted Textiles Have in Common?

They'll All Be at Maker Faire Philadelphia 2026

Event Date: Sunday, April 19, 2026, 10am — 4pm

Event Location: Cherry Street Pier, 121 Columbus Blvd, Philadelphia, PA 19106

PHILADELPHIA, PA (January 20, 2026) – What do combat robots, biotech experiments, and handcrafted textiles have in common? They'll all be at Maker Faire Philadelphia when the event returns to Cherry Street Pier and Race Street Pier in 2026.

Now in its sixth year, Maker Faire Philadelphia has become the region's premier gathering place for inventors, artists, engineers, crafters, and tinkerers of every kind. It's where 3D printers sit alongside analog art installations, where rocket builders share space with fashion designers, and where the only requirement is a passion for making and a willingness to share it.

The 2025 event demonstrated the Faire's growing momentum. As Hackaday reported, "The pier was packed with fascinating exhibits and excited attendees, and when the dust settled, everyone I spoke to was thrilled with how the day went and felt extremely positive about the future of the Faire."

What Visitors Will Experience

Attendees will explore:

- **Interactive Demonstrations:** Watch creators at work and learn the stories behind their projects.
- **Hands-On Activities:** Try new techniques and experiment with different tools and materials.
- **Innovative Exhibits:** Discover projects spanning traditional crafts to emerging technologies.
- **Community Connections:** Meet makers, entrepreneurs, educators, investors, and mentors who share your curiosity.

Join us for Philadelphia's largest celebration of DIY innovation and creativity.

<https://philly.makerfaire.com/>

Call for Makers

<https://philly.makerfaire.com/call-for-makers/>

Maker Faire Philadelphia is seeking participants for 2026. If you've built something, programmed something, grown something, or crafted something with a Do-It-Yourself (or Do-It-Together) spirit, we want you there.

We're seeking makers working in any area: digital fabrication (3D printing, laser cutting, CNC), sustainable technology, glass work, toys and games, robotics, drones, VR/AR, textiles, woodworking, interactive art, food innovation, unusual machines, and more. Solo inventors, student teams, makerspaces, and creative startups are all encouraged to apply. We especially value exhibits that are hands-on, interactive, and reveal the making process.

Participation is free for makers sharing their craft rather than selling products or services.

Maker Application Deadline: February 28, 2026

Call for Volunteers

<https://philly.makerfaire.com/volunteer/>

We're building something extraordinary for 2026, and we hope you'll be part of it! To our past volunteers: thank you for the energy, enthusiasm, and heart you brought to the Faire. You helped us celebrate everything that makes Philadelphia's maker community remarkable.

We'd love to have you back or joining for the first time. Veterans, your experience matters; first-timers, your viewpoint keeps us growing and evolving.

Volunteer roles span the full spectrum: event planning, welcoming visitors, assisting exhibitors, venue setup and breakdown, and more. Whatever your skills or schedule, there's a way to contribute. You'll connect with inspiring people, see the Faire from a whole new angle, and help create an experience that brings our community together.

We do it best when we do it with you.

Open and Accessible

<https://philly.makerfaire.com/tickets/>

Maker Faire Philadelphia is committed to being an event for all. Tickets are available on a pay-what-you-can basis:

- **Supporter (\$25):** Help a neighbor join us
- **Market (\$10):** Standard admission
- **Community (\$5):** Reduced admission
- **Neighbor (Free):** We're glad to have you!

Attendees are encouraged to pay based on their resources—if you work full time, consider a rate along the lines of your hourly pay.

Maker Faire Philadelphia is independently organized and operated under license from Maker Media, Inc.

Maker Faire Philadelphia, aka Philly Maker Faire, is a fiscally sponsored project of [Digital Harbor Foundation](#).

Sponsorships and Partnerships Available

Philly Maker Faire is looking for partners and sponsors to build an even better event in 2025. This is the premier event in the region for innovators to show off their ingenuity to an engaged public. Maker Faire is designed to inspire attendees to create their future.

- Sponsorship helps cover the costs that come with organizing a Maker Faire, which means we can level up. With that financial support, we bring in materials, equipment, and other resources for even more awesome workshops and demos. This means a more dynamic, inspiring event for attendees and smoother operations for our volunteer team.
- Sponsorship allows Philly Maker Faire to be a rich, memorable experience that's accessible to everyone through sliding-scale admission. The event draws creators and innovators across generations, giving sponsors natural opportunities to connect with potential collaborators, customers, and talent in an authentic setting. By hosting hands-on activities or workshops, you'll forge genuine connections with attendees while gaining valuable insights for future innovations. Plus, supporting Maker Faire aligns perfectly with initiatives focused on education and strengthening our community.
- This is THE opportunity for talented inventors, engineers, designers, innovators, and entrepreneurs to show their creations and ingenuity.
- Share your message with a highly educated and motivated audience of creatives, trend setters, and early adopters.
- Associate your name with engaging hands-on experiences which have a memorable, lasting impact.

More information about sponsorship opportunities can be found at the link
<https://philly.makerfaire.com/sponsorship/> or email hello@phillymakerfaire.com

About Cherry Street Pier

Cherry Street Pier is a year-round, mixed-use public space on the central Delaware River Waterfront. Built into the shell of a century-old municipal pier, it is a reflection of Philadelphia today—creative, diverse, historic, adaptable, and inspired. To learn more, visit CherryStreetPier.com.

About the Race Street Pier

Race Street Pier, located along the river at the intersection of Race Street and Columbus Boulevard opened in 2011 as the first park to be completed by DRWC. The design of Race Street Pier is a nod towards its original function as a bi-level shipping pier built-in 1896. To learn more, visit <https://www.delawareriverwaterfront.com/places/race-street-pier>

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 2025 celebrated its 17th show at its new location on Mare Island, CA. Annually, many large-scale Maker Faires occur in cities around the world—Orlando, Milwaukee, Los Angeles, Lille, Prague, Rome, Tokyo, and Shenzhen to name a few—alongside a wide variety of independently organized Community Maker Faires.

Besides the magazine and the faire, MAKE is:

- a vital online stream of news and projects (makezine.com);
- a retail outlet for kits and books, the Maker Shed (makershed.com);
- a steady stream of fun and instruction via our YouTube channel (youtube.com/make);
- a publisher of best-in-category titles via Make: Books, including introductions to electronics, Raspberry Pi, 3D printing, Arduino and more; and
- a gathering point for discussion, project sharing, finding assistance, and accessing unique content at Make Community (make.co).

More info: <https://makerfaire.com>

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