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Makers @ UMB: Community Engagement Center

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Program:	Community Engagement Center Makerspace

Barnard Smit, MFA, is the Program Coordinator for the University of Maryland, Baltimore's Community Engagement Center (CEC), including its makerspace. In 2020 the CEC re-located to a newly renovated, 20,000 sq. ft. historic building at 16 S. Poppleton St. in West Baltimore near the UMB BioPark. Comprised of a community room, dance and fitness studio, computer lab, makerspace, and more, the CEC offers neighbors a range of free opportunities by leveraging university resources.

The makerspace provides access to 3D printers, digital design tools, music recording technology, robotics and electronics kits, t-shirt printing, vinyl cutters, and more. Barnard organizes weekly workshops for adults and maker clubs for youth.

"We offer [free workshops](#) every week for neighbors of all ages to learn how to use a new technology or piece of equipment, make something with it, and take it home," says Barnard. "One of our neighbors aspires to start a business, using our machines to make custom designs using her own material and selling them."



Inside the UMB Community Engagement Center Makerspace

"Each week our Youth Makers Club explores a new technology or design space," observes Barnard. Such topics have included game and product design, music recording, 3D printing, and robotics programming.

"The space is growing and we're looking for opportunities to increase our footprint and capacity," he reports. "We encourage the community to take ownership of the space and tell us what they want to explore. Our goal is to provide resources and opportunities that enable discovery through making."



Barnard Smit received his BA in audio engineering from the SAE Institute in Amsterdam and his MFA from Parsons Paris.

Visit the [Community Engagement Center's website](#) to learn more and sign up for their weekly newsletter. Follow them on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

Meet the Makers Speaker Series: Open Insulin Foundation, November 17 @ 12pm EST, Zoom**"Open insulin in Baltimore and beyond"**

Please join us for Meet the Makers, our ongoing guest speaker series focused on emerging technologies in the health and life sciences. ([RSVP here](#))

The next event features Anthony Di Franco, PhD, and Yann Huon de Kermadec, PhD. from the Open Insulin Foundation.



The two will introduce the work of the [Open Insulin Foundation](#), a project to make an open source technology and knowledge base to produce insulin at local scale. Work on the project began at the Baltimore Underground Science Space in 2019, after the project was started in 2015 at Counter Culture Labs in Oakland, California.

Links of interest

1. [The Open Insulin Project: A Case Study for 'Biohacked' Medicines](#) ([sciencedirect.com](#))
2. [Telehealth Device Startup JuneBrain Moves to UM BioPark](#) ([umbiopark.com](#))
3. [A House 3D Printed from Raw Earth](#) ([itsnicethat.com](#))

Upcoming HS/HSL Innovation Space Workshops**3D Printing and Design in the Health and Life Sciences**

- December 2, 2021, 12:00pm

[Register for our free online workshops](#)

New to the HS/HSL Innovation Space?

The Innovation Space is designed for innovative and collaborative hands-on learning experiences. It offers a [HTC Vive VR system](#), [3D printers](#), [3D scanners](#), a plotter for [poster printing](#), electronics kits, a [zSpace](#) virtual reality station, [Google Cardboard](#) viewers, a large DNA model, molecule kits, a button maker, and a messy cart with utility tools and supplies. The staff provide consultations as well as workshops on a regular basis for those interested in 3D printing and other emerging technologies.

For more information, visit our webpage at <http://www.hshsl.umd.edu/services/inspace/>.



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