

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: March 6, 2015

Contact: Chelsea Dodd, 973-744-0500 x 2288, chelsea.dodd@montclair.bccls.org

FIRST ANNUAL NEW JERSEY MAKERS DAY
Montclair Public Library and HackNCraftNJ to be official locations

Montclair, N.J.—The maker movement in the United States isn't just a hobby; it's having a significant impact on school curriculum development and growing local economies. To celebrate making and maker culture, residents throughout New Jersey will come together on Saturday, March 21 in libraries, schools, museums, homes, and other community locations.

For this inaugural event, Montclair Public Library and its neighbor HackNCraftNJ are teaming up to provide maker activities in their respective facilities.

"We are ecstatic to be able to bring this type of programming to the Montclair community," said Chelsea Dodd, Information Services Supervisor. "We are committed to finding ways to help people learn new skills and work collaboratively on exciting hands-on projects."

Community members of all ages are invited to join for an exciting day filled with activities focusing on maker culture.

"We are thrilled to work with Montclair Public Library in this statewide event to engage and inspire local residents, and expose them to new technologies," added Frank Gibbons, co-founder of HackNCraftNJ.

At the library, events include a screening of the documentary *Maker* at 1 p.m., exhibitors with demonstrations for adults, and children's activities. Participants include Bike&Walk Montclair, the Township of Montclair's Environmental Affairs, a professor from Montclair State University's Department of Art & Design, MontclairMade, Green Mojo, and Guerrilla Gardening, among others.

HackNCraftNJ, located next door in the United Way building, will open its Makerspace to visitors from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. to showcase 3D printing, robots, drones, DIY electronics and other emerging technologies. Activities will include demonstrations, soldering instruction and hands-on projects.

These events are free and open to the public. The library is handicapped accessible and can provide assistive listening devices upon request.

For more information, visit www.montclairlibrary.org/calendar or www.HackNCraftNJ.org. Find out more about NJ Makers Day at www.njmakersday.org.

About Montclair Public Library

Founded in 1893, the Montclair Public Library serves the citizens of Montclair, New Jersey through two facilities: the Main Library at 50 S. Fullerton Avenue and the Bellevue Branch at 185 Bellevue Avenue, currently celebrating the Carnegie library building's 100th anniversary. The Montclair Public Library relies on municipal and private funding to offer a host of free educational programs, family events and services seven days a week, changing lives every day through words, ideas and community connections

About HackNCraftNJ

Founded in 2014, HackNCraftNJ, Inc. is a nonprofit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to building a local maker community in Montclair, NJ and surrounding areas. Our members are passionate about DIY electronics, 3D printing, robotics, drones, wearables, crafts and emerging technologies. HackNCraftNJ actively supports the community by mentoring and educating children and adults, exhibiting at STEM events, collaborating with local organizations and providing resources at our Makerspace located in Montclair, NJ. Learn more at www.HackNCraftNJ.org.

###