

**The arts are about making:** exploring and expressing one's creativity, collaborating and learning with others, crossing boundaries that traditionally separate areas of practice, and forging connections amongst disparate ideas to reveal new ones. The National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) supports the maker movement by awarding grants to nonprofit organizations throughout the United States for projects that focus on developing creative spaces, hosting artist residencies, and advancing cross-disciplinary work. Between 2012 and 2015, the NEA's support of these kinds of projects through the NEA's Art Works and Our Town funding programs totaled approximately \$3.1 million.

### Examples of NEA Grants Supporting the Maker Movement

Creative community spaces and their programming:

- The Arts & Recreation Foundation of Overland Park, Kansas received a grant for planning, program development, and design of InterUrban ArtHouse in a repurposed property in the city's business incentive district. The space includes affordable art studios and retail storefronts for creative entrepreneurs as well as areas for community arts programs and events.
- Project H Design in Kentfield, California received a grant to expand Camp H, which offers eight-week, after-school courses, and three-week intensive summer sessions for girls ages nine to 12 to learn skills such as carpentry, welding, masonry, electronics, and graphics.
- The Clarkston Community Center Foundation in Clarkston, Georgia received a grant for the Clarkston Art at the Center Incubator located in a refugee resettlement community. The incubator provides free studio and stage space for artists and, in partnership with the Clarkston Business Accelerator, offers business development classes for artists.

Residencies that provide artists with space, materials, and opportunities to collaborate and exhibit:

- Dieu Donne Papermill in New York, New York received a grant for residencies to mid-career and emerging artists to experiment in a medium outside their traditional practice through one-on-one collaborations with master papermakers, training on specialized equipment, and an exhibition.
- The MacDowell Colony in Peterborough, New Hampshire received a grant for its residencies that include exclusive studio use, room and board, and exchanges with peer artists. Since its founding in 1907, MacDowell has provided time and space to more than 6,000 artists.

Projects that explore new forms across science, engineering, art, performance, and craft:

- The Haymarket School of Crafts in Deer Isle, Maine received a grant for its Open Studio Residency program, a partnership with the Center for Bits and Atoms at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology that offers residencies for artists working in ceramics, fiber, graphics, glass, iron, and wood.
- The Schuylkill Center for Environmental Education in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania received a grant for the LandLab Series in which artists create site-specific, outdoor pieces in collaboration with ecology experts concerned with the prevention or remediation of environmental damage.

Those interested in applying to the NEA for funding, should go to the [Apply for a Grant section](#) of the NEA website.

**The NEA is proud to participate in the 2015 National Maker Faire by hosting a panel discussion on June 12, 2015 at 4pm about making in the arts.**