

# Houston History

Houston Maker Faire is a gathering of fascinating, curious people who enjoy learning and who love sharing what they can do. It's a venue for makers to show examples of their work and interact with others about it. Many makers say they have no other place to share what they do. DIY (Do-It-Yourself) is often invisible in our communities, taking place in shops, garages and on kitchen tables. It's typically out of the spotlight of traditional art or science or craft events. Maker Faire makes visible these projects and ideas that we don't encounter every day.

Houston Maker Faire, now in its 5<sup>th</sup> year, is brought to you by Innovation Spark.

Innovation Spark is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit committed to the advancement of STEM education throughout the Greater Houston Area. All of its staff work as unpaid volunteers, so all funds go directly to the execution of programs like Maker Faire. Innovation Spark is focused on building programs and events that drive technical learning, innovation and creativity across individuals and small teams of all ages and situations. The objective is to grow the real skills and knowledge of individuals of all ages and backgrounds through actual hands-on creative activities and projects prominently featuring current technologies and methods.

# National History

Maker Faire is the Greatest Show (and Tell) on Earth—a family-friendly festival of invention, creativity and resourcefulness, and a celebration of the Maker movement.

Part science fair, part county fair, and part something entirely new, Maker Faire is an all-ages gathering of tech enthusiasts, crafters, educators, tinkerers, hobbyists, engineers, science clubs, authors, artists, students, and commercial exhibitors. All of these “makers” come to Maker Faire to show what they have made and to share what they have learned.

The launch of Maker Faire in the Bay Area in 2006 demonstrated the popularity of making and interest among legions of aspiring makers to participate in hands-on activities and learn new skills at the event. 200,000 people annually attend the two flagship Maker Faires in the Bay Area and New York, with an average of 44% of attendees first timers at the Bay Area event, and 61% in New York. A family-friendly event, 50% attend the event with children. In 2017, over 190 independently-produced “Mini Maker Faires” plus over 30 larger-scale Featured Maker Faires will have taken place around the world, including Tokyo, Rome, Shenzhen, Taipei, Seoul, Paris, Berlin, Barcelona, Detroit, San Diego, Milwaukee, Kansas City and Houston.

Maker Faire is brought to you by Maker Media. [Maker Media](#) publishes [Make: magazine](#), produces [Maker Faire](#), and offers DIY electronics, tools, kits, and books through its online and pop-up [Maker Shedstores](#).

# Houston Maker Faire

## Board of Directors



David Brunet, President

David's passion for Maker Faire started 12 years ago when he attended the first Maker Faire in the Bay Area. He is one of the original organizers of the Houston Maker Faire. Over the past five years he has worked in various aspects of organizing and hosting the Houston Maker Faire.

David is passionate about STEAM and has spent most of his professional life working with new technology for Corporations. He is currently the VP of Research and Development for DLZP Group, LLC.

During his free time, he has volunteered and coached various youth teams ranging from Ice Hockey to Robotics. He enjoys sharing his knowledge and passion with the future leaders of tomorrow.



Andrew Lynch, Vice President

Andrew has had a passion for robotics and engineering since an early age. During high school, he participated on an FRC team. From there he has always been engaged with the robotics community in Texas. He started a non-profit to help spread STEM activities to K-12 programs. He has mentored various robotic teams in Texas and was a founding mentor for Team 2587.

He is one of the original organizers of the Houston Maker Faire. Over the past five years he has worked in various aspects of organizing and hosting the Houston Maker Faire.

Andrew's passion for robotics led him to a career in engineering, where is currently a Forensic Engineer at an industry leading engineering consulting firm.

### Houston Maker Faire Contact Information

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