



NJ Makers Day 2018 Project Summary Statement

The fourth annual New Jersey Makers Day (NJMD) was a fantastic success with 291 sites across 20 NJ counties hosting programs, exhibitors, hands-on demonstrations and workshops! Sites included public and academic libraries, museums, schools, association makerspaces, afterschool programs, non-profit organizations and more. With approximately 40% of sites reporting, we can estimate a total attendee count of more than 110,000 for the entire state.

This year also marked the first time providing direct support grants to 15 participating locations to fund unique activities and experiences. Support projects included upcycling programs, music composition and recording, engineering design workshops, a "library garden," and support to launch new sewing and robotics clubs, as well as starting up other new recurring and sustained maker programs and initiatives in a variety of underserved NJ communities.

A number of professional development opportunities were also offered this year, including a four-part "maker" workshop series designed to assist local community organizations ideate and plan their NJMD events, as well as two "Introduction to Woodworking" workshops located in both central and southern NJ.

Another exciting development from this past year is that the NJ Makers Day non-profit, in partnership with other state organizations, was chosen for a three-year educational outreach grant, "Leap into Science," from the National Science Foundation and the Franklin Institute. NJ Makers Day will work with the NJ State Library and Newark Museum to bring science and literacy workshop trainings to underserved populations across the state utilizing a "train the trainer" model.

NJ Makers Day collaborated with four organizations to offer various contests and a giveaway for both participating sites and the general public in 2018. Contests included developing a new product idea with pitch video, designing a workable piggybank in CAD, and developing a maker story with Scratch. Our Board of Trustees thanks WeMake 4H of Edison, eMachineshop, FizzeeLabs, and Buildtak for their support of and dedication to NJ Makers Day.

Finally, NJ Makers Day is once again thrilled to recognize primary fiduciary 2018 supporters, PSEG Foundation and New Jersey State Library, whose continued commitment to this initiative is instrumental in the impact, growth and reach of NJ Makers Day and the celebration of tinkering, STEM education and maker culture statewide.





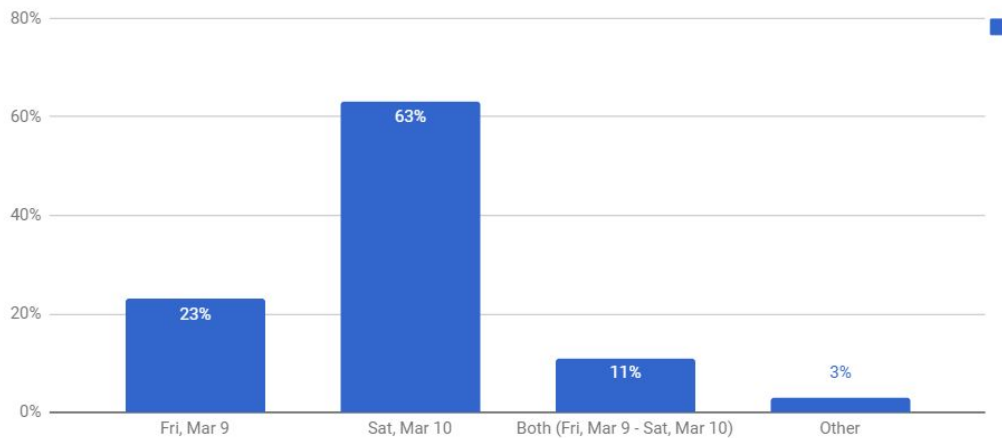
Comparative Data

Year-to-Year Comparison 2015-18 (based on 40% of participating sites reporting)

	2015	2016	2017	2018
Total Number of Sites	150	242	306	291
Total Number of Library Sites	110	155	181	181
Total Number of Schools Sites	4	63	89	74
Total Estimated Attendee Count	15,000	40,000	85,000	110,000
Average Attendee Count Per Site	100	188	240	385

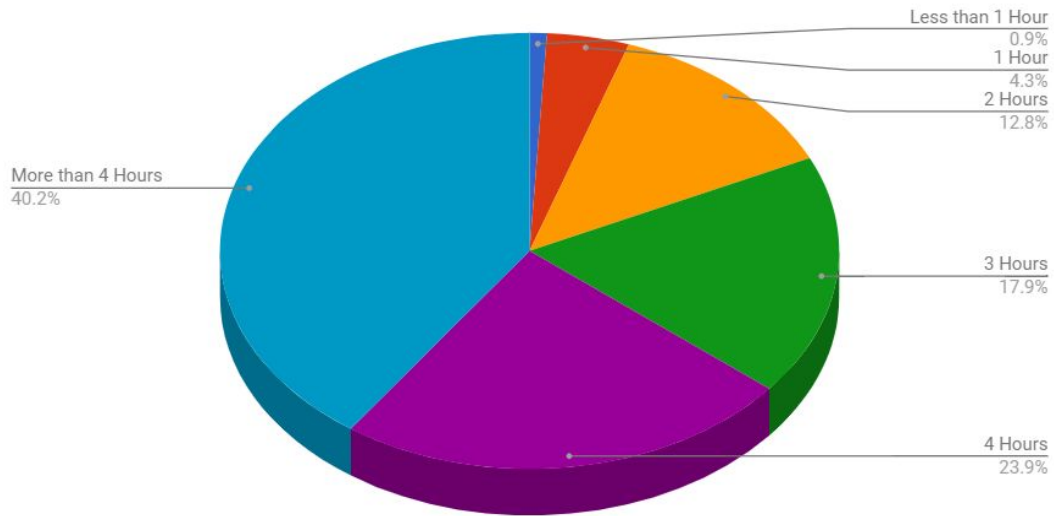
Reporting and Evaluation Data

How Many Days Did Your Site Participate?





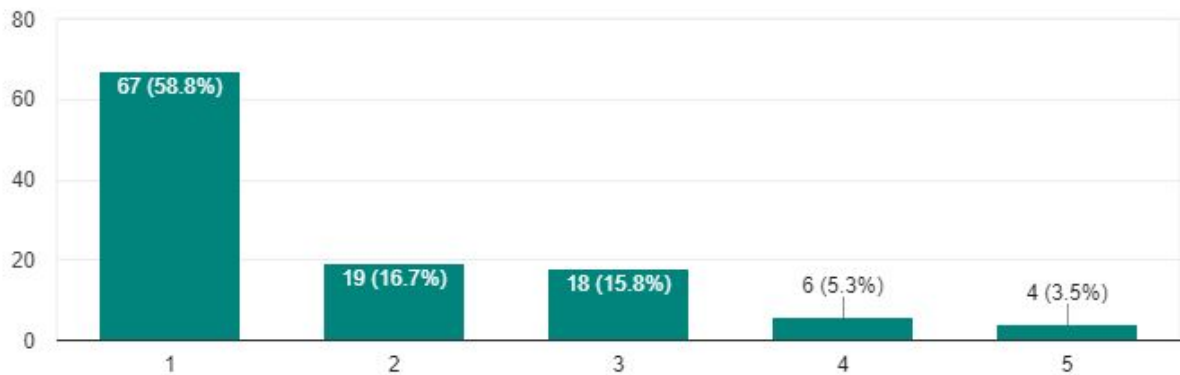
How Long Did Your Event Last



The following response used a scale of 1-5, with 1 being the “best.”

How would you rate your overall experience communicating with the NJ Makers Day planning team

114 responses

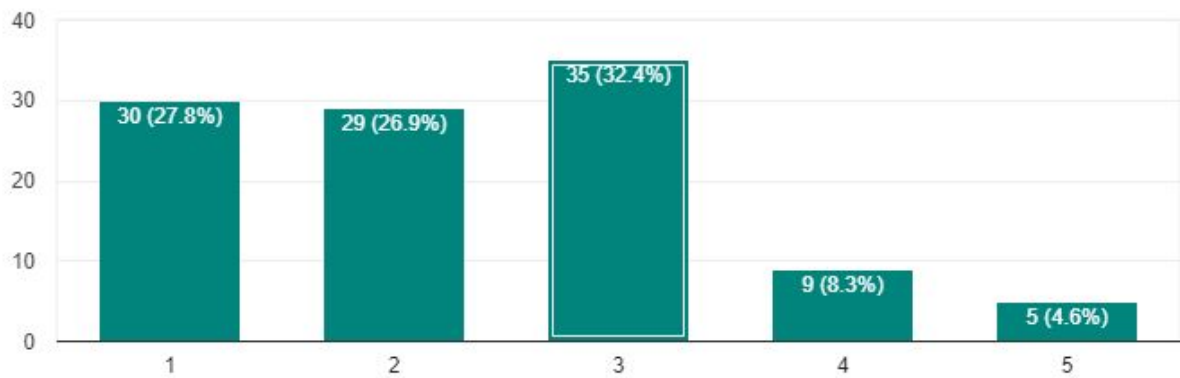




The following responses used a scale of 1-5, with 1 being the “best.”

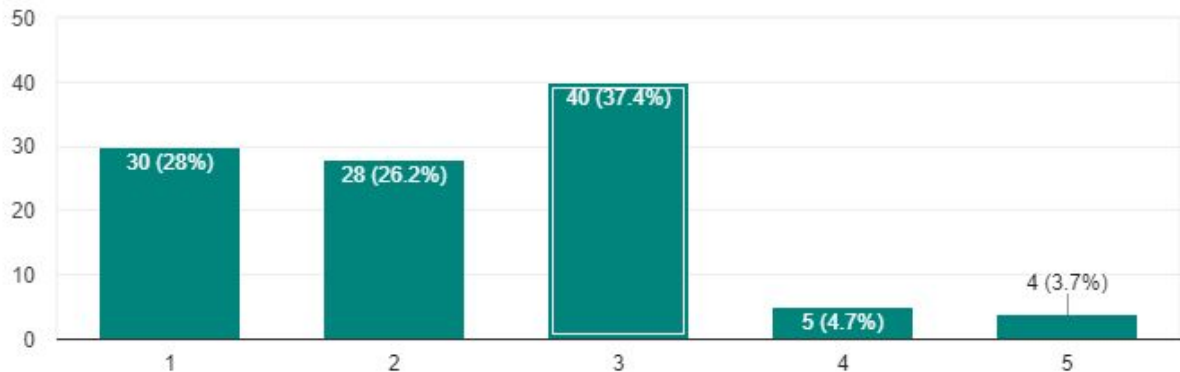
How would you rate discount benefits your site received participating in NJ Makers Day

108 responses



How would you rate contests co-sponsored by NJ Makers Day

107 responses





Selected Site Feedback

The library received great feedback from patrons. Several kids eagerly asked if we would be holding [NJ] Makers Day again the following weekend. We also had parents of special needs children/adults who told us the program offered their kids a chance to participate in a library program with a less formal structure that was open to all ages. **West Deptford Free Public Library**

NJMD is such an important and empowering program that I was proud to be a part of. It was an amazing experience for my library and for the teens who volunteer with the Haddon Branch Library's Makerlab. I have regular Makerlab programs, but I made NJMD into a big event for our library--we received some of the best feedback ever on our programs--parents loved that the teens staffed the stations, they loved the idea of NJMD, and almost everyone asked us to do it again next year! **Camden County Library, Haddon Township Branch**



Our PSEG volunteers couldn't make it because of winter storm damage at their homes, but someone else from PSEG came by to help out knowing that her colleagues could make it. That was awesome! **Newark Museum**



In many cases, family members worked together on a single project so this was a great family/team-building exercise. **Pennington Public Library**

"I have never seen so much community engagement anywhere in my life." **NJ Youth Corps Leader, Elizabeth Public Library**

There was a lot of parent-child interaction. We heard things like "Here, Mom, you make one too" and "Dad, look how cool this is!" **Camden County Library, Bellmawr Branch**



*Two young pre-teen males were fascinated with spinning and knitting. They wanted to learn how to learn how to knit immediately. They wanted their work to be perfect. I asked them what hobby they do that they really enjoy. They said "karate." I asked them if they were good at karate right away. They said no, and then they proceeded to show me their karate moves. I said knitting was like karate, it takes practice. They asked if we could hold knitting lessons at a future date, and of course I said yes. They also said this was the best NJ Makers Day our library ever had. This year we had lots of hands-on, low tech activities. Guess what? It turned out to be a great day. **Kenilworth Public Library***



*A family of four who came during the last half-hour our event was open had actually attended 4 or 5 other [NJ] Makers Day events before ours. They indicated that they enjoyed all of them, but were pleased to find that ours was different; the father actually said that he was glad we were doing crafts and not doing any robotics or technology stuff, as that is what all the other locations were doing. The two young girls actually shouted "pom-poms!" when they entered the room, upon seeing the sign for the pom-pom keychain station, and they and their mother seemed to enjoy all of the handcraft-centered activities they were able to partake in before we closed. **New Brunswick Free Public Library***



*Students, colleagues, parents, and the Superintendent all remarked separately that, "This is how school should be every day." **Ocean Township Intermediate School***

*We just love to see our students get some hands-on, creative time! Teachers always seem amazed by how much what we do relates to what they're teaching. I'm so happy for the connections this day helps us make. **Northern Valley Demarest High School***

*A local 7th grader approached us about displaying some of his homemade robots as part of [NJ] Maker[s] Day. He ended up designing a whole program/demonstration around the robots that included a brief lecture about cryptocurrency! **Palisades Park Public Library***



We used [NJ Makers Day] as an impetus to unite several community groups within our town. The Manville Arts Council invited local boy scout and girl scout troops to host an activity and they did a great job. We were also able to bring in our Sustainable Manville and #ManvilleRocks to host tables as well and teach both adults and children different ways we can make our community healthier and stronger. It was a great way for us to unite our community in a positive way. **Manville Arts Council**

Respectfully submitted,
Doug Baldwin
President
New Jersey Makers Day, A NJ Nonprofit Corporation