



# The Shop — Arlington Public Library’s new Maker space — invites Arlingtonians to create with us.

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- *Free Maker classes and lab time for all ages.*
- *Phased roll-out with extended lab hours after July 19, 2019.*
- *Visit [library.arlingtonva.us/theshop](http://library.arlingtonva.us/theshop) for more information.*

Arlington Public Library opens the doors to The Shop, a new, free Maker space in Arlington, which offers weekly classes ranging from crafts, to 3-D design and fabrication, one-on-one tutoring and open lab time for beginning and advanced Makers.

“We are excited to promote the Maker movement and offer collaborative spaces to meet the evolving needs of our community,” said Library Director Diane Kresh. “The Shop provides access to tools and software and is staffed with Maker mentors to help you get your project off the ground.”

Whether it’s creating hip custom vinyl stickers or artful stencils for your water flask, learning about preservation and digitization for analog storage formats such as VHS tapes and 8mm film to designing and fabricating street wear from recycled materials—Shop programs will have something for everyone.

Participants can use a wide variety of equipment for their creative projects ranging from 3-D printers, sewing machines, vinyl cutters and circuitry kits. According to Maker Librarian Katelyn Attanasio, “we encourage all Library patrons to meet and collaborate with one another on projects. The Shop will help kids and teens develop critical thinking and STEAM skills in a non-traditional environment, and offer adults the opportunity to learn new skills for work and play. Best of all, it’s totally free!”

The new Maker space is located on the second floor of Central Library and is part of last year’s building upgrade along with new meeting rooms, redesigned public PC stations, reading and study areas, updated furniture and media shelving and modernized reference stations, “all designed to enhance patron use of the Central Library, an everyday destination for many Arlingtonians,” according to Kresh.

Lab hours are Mondays to Thursdays from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturdays from 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Starting July 19, 2019, Library patrons can expect extended hours, and children's and teen classes are planned for the fall.

Technology and equipment in The Shop are made possible in part by the Friends of the Arlington Public Library.

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*Arlington Public Library is the heart of a thoughtful, inclusive and dynamic community  
where people and ideas connect.*  
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