

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE **June 19th 2026**

Momentum of Makers: Maker Daytona Beach Draws Over 90 Attendees for Interactive Community Interactive Show N' Tell

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — Maker Daytona Beach continued its momentum on June 11 at the Daytona Regional Library, welcoming more than 90 attendees for an evening celebrating creativity, innovation, craftsmanship, and hands-on learning.

The community-driven Show N' Tell featured an expanded lineup of local makers, creators, artists, engineers, and hobbyists, reflecting the growing interest in Daytona Beach's emerging maker community. Designed to be interactive rather than simply observational, the event encouraged attendees to engage directly with makers, ask questions, learn new skills, and explore the creative process behind a wide variety of projects and disciplines.

Hosted in partnership with the **Daytona Regional Library's LaunchPad Maker Space**, the **event also highlighted one of Volusia County's most unique community resources**. The LaunchPad serves as a public innovation hub, offering access to 3D printers, Cricut machines, die-cutting equipment, a green screen studio, gaming systems, and other creative technologies available to the public. Open Monday through Friday, the space welcomes students, entrepreneurs, artists, hobbyists, and lifelong learners looking to develop new skills and bring ideas to life.

Throughout the evening, attendees had the opportunity to meet members of the Volusia Woodworkers Guild, learn about planetary and deep-space photography from a local astrophotographer, participate in a community mural led by local artists, and discover the intricate art of knot making through a hands-on demonstration. Visitors also learned basic soldering techniques, explored creative projects from local makers, interacted with Buster the Robot Dog, and enjoyed a special appearance by Mechanoid the Droid, a crowd favorite that delighted attendees of all ages.

"What makes the maker community special is that everyone has something to share and something to learn," said Valerie Uy, organizer of Maker Daytona Beach. "You might have a woodworker teaching alongside a robotics enthusiast, an artist collaborating with an engineer, or someone discovering a new hobby they never knew existed. The goal is to create a welcoming space where creativity and curiosity can thrive."

Maker Daytona Beach was founded as a grassroots initiative dedicated to connecting makers across Volusia County and creating opportunities for the public to engage with innovation, technology, arts, crafts, science, and entrepreneurship. Through partnerships with libraries, schools, community organizations, and local makers, the initiative seeks to

foster collaboration, learning, and community engagement through free and accessible events.

Building on the success of the June gathering, **Maker Daytona Beach will host its next Show N' Tell on Thursday, July 16, at the Deltona Regional Library.** Community members of all ages are invited to attend, meet local makers, explore hands-on activities, and discover the many ways people are creating, inventing, and building throughout the region.

Whether you're an artist, engineer, student, entrepreneur, hobbyist, crafter, inventor, or simply curious, Maker Daytona Beach welcomes everyone to join the growing maker movement and experience the power of creativity in action.

For more information about upcoming events, visit www.makersdaytonabeach.com or follow Maker Daytona Beach on social media.

Media Contact

Valerie Uy

Organizer, Maker Daytona Beach

makersdaytonabeach@gmail.com

www.makersdaytonabeach.com

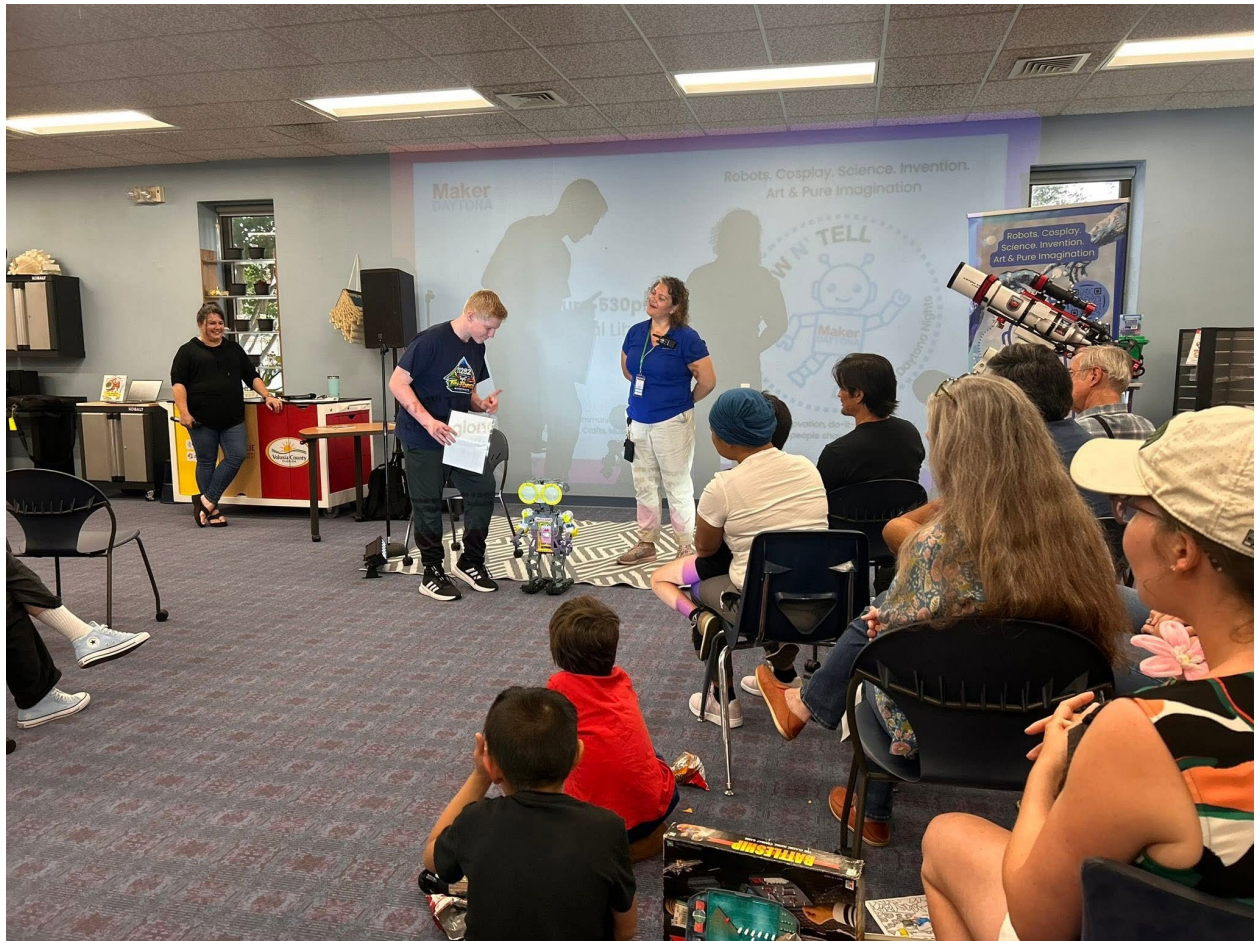
PHOTOS ATTACHED Below with caption



A young attendee greets Buster the Robot Dog from Bethune Cookman University during Maker Daytona Beach's community Show N' Tell at the Daytona Regional Library. More than 80 residents gathered to explore robotics, woodworking, astrophotography, soldering, art, and other hands-on maker experiences that brought creativity and innovation to life



NO AI Needed! Astrophotographer Tim Pratt shares breathtaking multiple images of distant nebulae and galaxies captured from his own backyard observatory. Attendees learned how amateur astronomers use telescopes, cameras, and patience to photograph distant galaxies, nebulae, and celestial objects from right here in Volusia County.



Daytona Regional librarian Ms. Edie and Liam, a student of DeLand HS of Triforce Robotics introduced attendees to Mechanoid the Library Droid. The interactive robot demonstrated its ability to communicate, perform calculations, and engage with visitors, giving families and students a hands-on glimpse into the world of robotics and STEM innovation.



Joe Kunzman, Volusia Woodworkers Guild chapter president demonstrates woodworking techniques during Maker Daytona Beach's Show N' Tell at the Daytona Regional Library. The presentation drew a crowd of all ages, inspiring both young makers and lifelong craftsmen through the timeless art of creating with one's hands.



Cosplayers are a vibrant part of the maker movement, combining craftsmanship, creativity, and imagination through costume design, prop making, sewing, electronics, and storytelling. Maker Daytona Beach invites the community to join future events and come dressed as their favorite characters—because making is for everyone.

Pictured left to right: Savannah-Jane Griffin, Chief Executive Officer, Neighborhood Center of West Volusia; Valerie Uy, Founder of Maker Daytona Beach; and Trish McGetrick, Senior Operations Manager, CareerSource Brevard Flagler Volusia.



Award-winning mural artist Natasha Azari of the Save the Arts Movement invited attendees to become artists themselves through a collaborative paint-by-numbers community mural during Maker Daytona Beach's Show N' Tell. Participants of all ages contributed brushstrokes to the artwork, transforming a blank canvas into a shared creation that reflected the spirit of creativity, collaboration, and community. Azari's work can be found throughout the region, including public murals in Holly Hill and along International Speedway Boulevard.



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