

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Bethune-Cookman Engineering Students, Fightable Lightsabers, Robotics Teams, and Young Makers Spotlited at Growing Maker Daytona Beach Event

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — From university engineering students and competitive robotics teams to 8-year-olds proudly showcasing their own inventions, Maker Daytona Beach is quickly becoming a new hub for hands-on creativity, STEM learning, and grassroots innovation in Volusia County.

Connected to the global Maker Movement through Maker Faire Orlando, Maker Daytona Beach recently hosted its second community “Maker Show N’ Tell Night,” Attracting more than 120 attendees and bringing together creators, students, educators, engineers, artists, and families in an interactive environment centered around building, learning, and sharing ideas

One of the highlights of the evening was the participation of, whose students showcased engineering and robotics projects while engaging directly with community members and younger students interested in STEM fields.

The event also featured students from, and alongside local university students, artists, and independent makers displaying projects ranging from robotics and electronics to digital creations and hands-on builds.

Adding to the excitement, “fightable lightsabers” demonstrated by, Wierdly Wired, a homeschool program based in Deltona, quickly became a crowd favorite and added a fun, interactive element to the evening.

Among the most memorable moments were several young makers, including an 8-year-old student from proudly showcasing CrunchLabs engineering builds — capturing the spirit of curiosity and creativity that Maker Daytona Beach hopes to inspire throughout the community.

“Seeing Bethune-Cookman engineering team sharing the room with high school robotics teams, homeschool creators, younger students, and families is exactly the kind of environment we hoped to create,” said Valerie Uy, organizer of Maker Daytona Beach. “It reminds people that innovation and creativity can start at any age, and that these spaces matter for inspiring the next generation.”

Unlike traditional exhibitions, Maker Daytona Beach is designed as a highly interactive community event where attendees are encouraged to ask questions, connect directly with creators, and experience projects up close.

Current collaborators and supporters include Volusia County Schools STEM, The Brown Museum at MOAS, Volusia County Economic Development, local libraries, educators, artists, and robotics teams throughout the region.

Upcoming Maker Show N' Tell Nights include:

- June 11 — Daytona Beach Regional Library
- July 16 — Deltona Regional Library

Organizers are continuing efforts to establish Maker Daytona Beach as a nonprofit chapter while building partnerships with schools, colleges, workforce organizations, and community groups across the area.

More information about Maker Daytona Beach and upcoming events can be found at:

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8-year-old Sebastian Pratts from Pine Trails Elementary attends Maker Daytona Beach's Show N' Tell Night at alongside his mother, Kelly Pratts, proudly showcasing his CrunchLabs gyroscope build during the community hands-on maker event.



SMASH Robotics (Spruce Creek High) shows off their interactive Robots at Daytona Makers Show N' Tell



TriForce Robotics (DeLand, Taylor, University High) shows off their interactive Robots at Daytona Makers Show N' Tell



Roy Savoca, Bethune Cookman University Computer Engineering showcases interactive robotic dog . The robot demonstrated advanced movement capabilities and interactive functions that went far beyond simple tricks, drawing strong interest from attendees throughout the evening.



Attendees of all ages gather at Maker Daytona Beach's community Show N' Tell Night, featuring robotics, engineering projects, interactive displays, and hands-on creativity from local students, makers, and families.



Faye Garker of Wierdly Wired, a homeschool program based in Deltona, showcases interactive “fightable lightsabers” during Maker Daytona Beach’s Show N’ Tell Night at Cinematique of Daytona. The hands-on display quickly became a crowd favorite as attendees of all ages gathered to learn more about the builds and experience the interactive demonstration firsthand.