

Where Legacy Meets the Next Generation: Maker Faire Daytona Comes to the Mickel A. Brown Sr. Activity Center October 10

Historic Midtown venue honoring Daytona Beach entrepreneur and mentor Mickel A. Brown Sr. will welcome makers, builders, artists, educators and families for a community celebration of creativity and hands-on learning.

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. On October 10, the Mickel A. Brown Sr. Activity Center in Daytona Beach's historic Midtown neighborhood will be filled with robots, builders, artists, craftspeople, educators, students and families as it becomes the next home of **Maker Faire Daytona**.

For Maker Daytona, however, the location represents much more than a venue.

The activity center honors **Mickel Antonio Brown Sr. (1961–2014)**, a Daytona Beach entrepreneur, mentor and community leader whose story shares many of the values at the heart of the maker movement: creating something of your own, working with your hands, solving problems and sharing what you know with others.

Brown operated a painting and pressure-washing business and became known throughout the community not only for his work, but for mentoring others and helping open doors for young people. His involvement with Bethune-Cookman University also made him a familiar presence in the Daytona Beach community. The City of Daytona Beach later named the activity center in his honor and recognized Brown as one of its **2025 Black History Icons**.

“Before we fill this building with makers, builders, artists and young people, we want our community to know whose name is on it and why that story matters,” said **Valerie Uy, founder and organizer of Maker Daytona**. “Mickel Brown Sr. created things, built a business, solved problems and shared what he knew. There is something very meaningful about bringing people together to learn and create in a place that honors someone who spent his own life building and mentoring others.”

A Community's History Underfoot

The story of the venue extends beyond the walls of the activity center.

Visitors are encouraged to look down as they approach the building, where colorful painted tributes throughout the pavement celebrate people, schools, institutions and community leaders who helped shape Daytona Beach.

Among those represented is Brown himself.

For his son, **Mickel Brown Jr.**, the artwork provides a visible reminder of a family legacy that remains part of the community today. For visitors arriving at Maker Faire Daytona in

October, the surrounding artwork also offers an opportunity to discover some of the people and institutions whose contributions helped shape the city.

That connection between **what a community inherits and what the next generation creates** is especially fitting for Maker Faire Daytona.

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

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Photos / Images as attached with captions



A home for makers in the heart of Midtown. The **Mickel A. Brown Sr. Activity Center** will welcome makers, artists, educators, students and families for Maker Faire Daytona on October 10, connecting Daytona Beach's community legacy with its next generation of creators.



Mickel Brown Jr. takes a moment to look at the mural honoring his father, **Mickel A. Brown Sr.**, whose legacy of entrepreneurship, mentorship and service lives on in Daytona Beach. On October 10, the activity center bearing his father's name will welcome a new generation of makers, builders, artists and families for Maker Faire Daytona



Where Daytona's history meets its future. Painted tributes surrounding the Mickel A. Brown Sr. Activity Center preserve the stories of local people and institutions that helped shape the community. On October 10, a new generation of makers will gather among those stories to create, learn and share.



History is all around us in Historic Midtown. From the painted tributes surrounding the Mickel A. Brown Sr. Activity Center to the Heritage Trail at the nearby **Dickerson Center**, the neighborhood offers visitors an opportunity to experience the stories and legacy of the community beyond the walls of its buildings.



