Virginia Maker Conference
April 30-May 1, 2017
Virginia Tech, Moss Arts Center
Blacksburg, Virginia Tech

Hosted by the Institute for Creativity, Arts, and Technology (ICAT)

Call for Makers
for students in grades 9-12
To: Virginia high school students, faculty, and principals
From: Phyllis Newbill, Outreach and Engagement Coordinator,
Virginia Tech Institute for Creativity, Arts, and Technology
Date: January 17, 2017

Re: Virginia Maker Conference: Call for makers

The Institute for Creativity, Arts, and Technology (ICAT) at Virginia Tech invites Virginia high school students to submit proposals for the Virginia Maker Conference, April 30-May 1, 2017. Submissions are due Monday, March 13, 2017.

Call for Makers
ICAT invites students in grades 9-12 to propose an exhibit for the Virginia Maker Conference. At the conference, makers will show their products and processes, meet makers from other schools across the state, and learn more about opportunities at Virginia Tech. They will also participate in a design workshop and ICAT Creativity and Innovation Day activities.

Conference theme: Sensing Place
In conjunction with ICAT Creativity and Innovation Day, the theme of the 2017 Virginia Maker Conference is Sensing Place. We explore how science, engineering, art, and design coalesce to form a sense of place, including the environmental place, the historic place, the virtual place, and the cultural place. Situate yourself at the Moss Arts Center to see how human senses and electronic sensors contribute to and learn from place. Meet the faculty and students who are crossing traditional boundaries to develop new possibilities for exploration, expression, and creativity.

Conference Schedule
Sunday
3:00 PM Concert in the Cube (optional)
7-9 PM Maker Conference Design workshop
Monday
8:00 AM Building opens
8:30 AM Maker Conference exhibits open
10:00 AM Keynote
11:00 AM ICAT Creativity and Innovation Day opens to public
12:00 PM Maker Conference exhibits close
1:30 PM Maker Conference award presentation
2:00 PM Maker Conference dismissed
4:00 PM ICAT Creativity and Innovation Day exhibits close (optional)
7:30 PM Concert in the Cube (optional)

Conference Registration Fee - FREE
The conference is free to attend for students whose projects are accepted. ICAT Creativity and Innovation Day events are also free and open to the public.

Lodging
A block of rooms has been held at the Hilton Garden Inn for the night of April 30-May 1. Rooms are $101/night. Some are single occupancy and some are double, so reserve early to get your preference. You may reserve rooms by calling (540) 552-5005 and referencing the ICAT block code or using the link: http://hiltongardeninn.hilton.com/en/gi/groups/personalized/B/BCBGIGI-ICAT-20170430/index.jhtml
Meals
Meals are on your own. There are wonderful dining opportunities in downtown Blacksburg and on the Virginia Tech campus.

Exhibit Format
Exhibits will be presented as booths at the Maker Conference. Makers will present their own work to booth visitors as well as visit other booths. Makers can choose whether to have a 6-foot table or 10’x10’ floor space for their exhibit.

Teams
Teamwork is encouraged.

Merit Ribbons
Exhibits at the ICAT Maker Conference will be recognized with merit ribbons for exemplary efforts in

(1) crossing the disciplines of science, engineering, art, and design,
(2) presenting the process of how the product was made and how it works with a book, video, poster or other documentation,
(3) creating an engaging audience experience.

ICAT Creativity and Innovation Day
ICAT Creativity and Innovation Day is a collection of events, which are free and open to the public, that showcase the work and ideas that have been generated from the institute’s faculty and students during the academic year. The event, which includes expo-style informational booths, technology demonstrations, and hands-on activities, will be held in the Moss Arts Center at Virginia Tech. ICAT Day is May 1, 2017, from 10 AM to 4 PM with additional activities in the evening.

ICAT
A university-level research institute sitting at the nexus of the arts, design, engineering, and science, the Institute for Creativity, Arts, and Technology is uniquely partnered with the Center for the Arts at Virginia Tech. By forging a pathway between transdisciplinary research and art, educational innovation, and scientific and commercial discovery, the institute works to foster the creative process to create new possibilities for exploration and expression through learning, discovery, and engagement. This includes preparing students in kindergarten through 12th grade and higher education environments to succeed in a world that demands teamwork and collaboration of science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) disciplines; promoting new research domains that transcend institutionalized boundaries; and participating with people of all ages in the process of co-creation.

Please see below to learn more about what information is required in your proposal. Submit your proposal at https://virginiatech.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_1Tjoj9h2QEM5fa5 by Monday, March 13.

More Information
If you have questions about the Virginia Maker Conference, please visit the ICAT website at icat.vt.edu, or contact Phyllis Newbill (pnewbill@vt.edu) or Sam Blanchard (sam1@vt.edu).
**PROPOSAL SUBMISSION INFORMATION**
Submit your proposal at [https://virginiatech.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_1Tjoj9h2QEM5fa5](https://virginiatech.qualtrics.com/SE/?SID=SV_1Tjoj9h2QEM5fa5). See below for the proposal survey questions.

Thank you for submitting your project proposal. Please tell us about what you plan to do.

**Exhibit title:**

Describe what you will bring to exhibit and share.

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Have you already made what you are bringing?

- [ ] Yes
- [ ] In progress
- [ ] No

Describe your process for making your product and exhibit. Note where you are in the process now (haven't begun, planning and thinking, researching, building, etc.).

Describe the audience's experience at your exhibit.

How do you plan to document your process? (Check all that apply.)

- [ ] Journal
- [ ] Photographs
- [ ] Video
- [ ] Process artifacts
- [ ] Another way

Recognizing that plans can change, how do you plan to present your process documentation? (Check all that apply.)

- [ ] Book/portfolio
- [ ] Movie
- [ ] Poster
- [ ] Other (describe)

Describe the noise level for your exhibit. Noisy exhibits are welcome. We need this info to make sure we arrange the booths appropriately.

- [ ] Low - conversational
- [ ] Amplified
- [ ] Repetitive or potentially annoying
- [ ] Very loud
Will you use radio frequencies?

☐ Yes  
☐ No  

If yes, describe the radio frequencies you will use.

Safety of conference participants, facilities, and equipment is the top priority. Describe any potential hazards, large or small, your exhibit may present.

Your school
School name
Governor’s school name (if applicable)

Names and emails of your team members. Fill in as many as needed.

I (and/or someone from my team, if applicable) can attend the Virginia Governor’s School Maker Conference on April 30-May 1, 2017, in Blacksburg, Virginia.

☐ Yes  
☐ No  

Each project at the Virginia Maker Conference must be approved by a teacher. Ensure that your teacher has approved your project before submitting.

My teacher, principal, or school director has approved my project.

☐ Yes  
☐ No  

Approver’s name

Name and email of your principal and faculty advisor or teacher