



For more information  
contact Teresa DeFlicht  
[tdeflicht@pittsburghkids.org](mailto:tdeflicht@pittsburghkids.org).

Kickstarting Making in  
Schools is made possible by  
the Grable Foundation and  
the educational support of  
Kickstarter.

# Kickstarting Making in Schools

## Developing a Sustainable National Model to Integrate Making into Schools

Ten geographically and population diverse schools in the Pittsburgh region were chosen by an application process to partner with the Museum from May 2015 through June 2016. Schools will raise funds for their projects using *Kickstarter*, an online funding platform, and participate in ongoing professional development facilitated and coordinated by the Museum.

### High-Quality, Localized Professional Development

Children's Museum of Pittsburgh oversees project management and professional development, working with each school to identify training needs and champion the teachers as they grow into master maker educators.

### Networked Approach

The Museum will work with each individual school to develop a comprehensive plan based on their needs that will leverage the Museum's expertise and experience, as well as that of schools and organizations throughout Pittsburgh's robust learning network, who may offer complementary professional development.

### Building Community through Crowdfunding

The Museum believes that not only will crowdfunding prove a viable way for schools to raise necessary funds for the integration of maker learning, it will also provide a means for schools to actively reflect on learning outcomes and build community around their endeavors with parents, local residents, business owners, and others.

### Research and Evaluation

Positioned within the Learning and Research Department the project will feature a significant research and evaluation component in order to track learner outcomes, propose changes for future scaling, and analyze the effectiveness of the crowdfunding platform within the context of the school environment.

### Taking it to Scale

The Museum is developing a strategic plan to scale the program to locations throughout the country. Museums, libraries, or other organizations identified as hubs will oversee the program and support schools within their home communities while receiving training in implementation from Children's Museum of Pittsburgh.