



The Hive Makerspace to Open at the Main Library

CAMBRIDGE, MA, June 23, 2021 --The Hive, a hub for the Cambridge STEAM Initiative, will open to the public on Tuesday, July 6, 2021. The Hive makerspace is located in the lower level of the Main Library. It consists of a hands-on workshop (Fab Lab) stocked with digital and traditional fabrication tools, a Multimedia Studio for creating audio and video content, a Podcasting Studio and an Extended Reality Lab for experiencing and experimenting with virtual and augmented reality.

“We are thrilled that The Hive will be opening soon,” said Dr. Maria McCauley, Director of Libraries for the City of Cambridge. “The Hive will enhance the Library’s ability to create learning opportunities for all residents in a rapidly evolving creative, scientific, and technological landscape. I want to acknowledge the collective effort by so many across the City and within the Library to prepare this creative space and service.”

“In April 2019, the City appropriated \$1.8 million for the construction of The Hive Makerspace and Creativity Zone at the Cambridge Public Library,” said Louis A. DePasquale, Cambridge City Manager. “The opening of The Hive is an important milestone in our commitment to make Cambridge a world-class STEAM City. This state-of-the-art space will help make STEAM learning opportunities accessible to all in our community.

Tours, workshops and other Hive programs will commence next month and can be found on the Library’s calendar.

“We think the Hive is pretty unique.” said Reinhard Engels, Manager of Innovation and Technology for the Cambridge Public Library. “You can design and make physical things using 3D printers, laser cutters, sewing machines, button makers and other tools. You can record video, music and podcasts. You can explore virtual and augmented reality. All for free. Everyone is welcome — especially people who have never done any of these things before. We will teach you.”

The mission of The Hive is to provide free, hands-on STEAM learning opportunities to the Cambridge community, resources for personal projects, and to serve as a hub for skill sharing and creative collaboration.

The Hive will be open to the public beginning July 6 at the times listed below.

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
closed	10a.m.- 5p.m	1p.m.- 9p.m.	1p.m.- 5p.m.	1p.m.- 5p.m.	11a.m.- 3p.m

Public open hours in The Hive will expand over the next few months with updates shared on our website. The makerspace will be open to partner community groups for special programs and field trip visits outside these times.

The STEAM Initiative is a joint venture between the City of Cambridge’s Department of Human Service Programs, Cambridge Public School Department, and the Cambridge Public Library. The STEAM Initiative ensures that, through equitable access to high quality STEAM programming and resources, all Cambridge residents, regardless of social and economic barriers, are STEAM literate and possess the skills necessary to be successful, engaged, and responsible citizens in a rapidly changing world. STEAM is an integrated approach to learning that uses any combination of STEAM areas of study - Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math - as access points for inquiry, dialogue, and critical thinking.

The Library has received STEAM funding support from City of Cambridge, Cambridge Trust, CPL Foundation, Friends of the CPL, Google, MBLC, Margret and H.A Rey Curious George Fund, Eric and Jane Nord Family Fund and Verizon.

About the Cambridge Public Library:

At the Cambridge Public Library, we welcome all, inspire minds and empower community. We support a Cambridge where everyone has equitable opportunities to learn, people live their best lives, and democracy thrives. During the Covid-19 health crisis, we are offering a variety of programs and services. [Visit our website](#) to learn the details.

Media Contact:

Muna Kangsen, Manager of Communications, Programs and Events
 Office: 857-235-9809
 Mobile: 617-461-3708
 Email: mkangsen@cambridgema.gov