



**heartland
foundation®**

2019 Big Muddy Mini Maker Faire was a wonderful success!

**Your March Update from
President, Dr. Julie Gaddie**

[Read](#)



Engineers, artists, entrepreneurs,
crafters and scientists

showcasing their passion.



2019 Makers Shared Their Stories With More Than 700 Attendees

Inventors, hobbyists and curious minds gathered at Restoration Natatorium on March 2, 2019, for the second annual Big Muddy Mini Maker Faire in St. Joseph.

More than forty makers shared their knowledge through hands-on projects, demonstrations and workshops at the event. Guests enjoyed observing robotic showcases, spinning wool, a CPR lesson and many more activities. Area students, schools and public libraries also shared how innovation happens during education.

Shocking Science returned to the Big Muddy Mini Maker Faire. Using modern technology, [Steve Seigel](#) is able to play music with man-made lightning. Seigel uses tesla coils and electricity to bring music to guests' ears. Another crowd favorite returning was [Hamster Wheel Entertainment, LLC](#). For a small fee, guests could run on a hamster wheel to create their own custom shaved ice. A new maker to the Faire, and a local from St. Joseph is AR Workshop. Attendees could purchase a make and take a wood project.

[Meet the 2019 Makers](#)

The History of Maker Faires

The Big Muddy Mini Maker Faire which debuted in St. Joseph in 2018 is part of a growing international movement to celebrate invention, creativity and resourcefulness.

There are 190 independently produced Mini Maker Faires and more than 30 larger-scale featured Maker Faires. The movement began in the San Francisco Bay Area in 2006 and quickly spread to Austin, Detroit and New York City. The flagship Faires in the Bay Area and New York City draw more than 200,000 people annually.

Closer to home, Kansas City offers one of



the larger Maker Faires in the country each June. Other Midwest Mini Maker Faires are in Springfield, Missouri; Wichita, Kansas; Omaha, Nebraska; and Des Moines, Iowa.



The Big Muddy Mini Maker Faire's Connection to Our Summer STEAM Camps

Heartland Foundation continues to emphasize education and empowerment through our STEAM Camp program and with the Big Muddy Mini Maker Faire. Local educators and community leaders recognized the importance of developing interest in supporting STEAM, the acronym for **Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math**.

We host Camp Invention and STEAM camps at emPowerU in St. Joseph, Missouri, and STEAM Camps at our Think Ahead Works® location in King City, Missouri.

Our Summer Camps are designed for students grades 3-8 to create and develop an interest in science, technology, engineering, art and mathematics. All sessions feature hands-on activities led by trained facilitators. Kids will build machines, vehicles, tools, contraptions and robots. They will also learn how to program their robots to perform a variety of maneuvers.

For more information on camp offerings and to register, please visit [here](#).

Heartland Foundation Scholarship Applications Now Open

Heartland Foundation offers scholarships for students seeking post-secondary education.

Students interested in completing certificate programs, associate or bachelor's degrees or graduate studies have an opportunity to apply.

Several scholarships are intended to uplift various areas of study and the overall value of lifelong learning. An additional six (e²) education emPowers® scholarships are offered through a collaboration of Heartland Foundation, Healthy Communities Regional Investor Partners and regional post-secondary education institutions.

Details about the eligibility criteria and scholarship applications can be found [here](#).

Heartland Foundation is a think ahead organization focused on uplifting the value of lifelong learning and community involvement.

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