



Carroll County Public Library | 1100 Green Valley Road | New Windsor, MD 21776

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

August 21, 2023

Carroll County Public Library Receives Maryland Makerspace Award

Carroll County, MD. (August 21, 2023) – Carroll County Public Library has been selected as a recipient for one of TEDCO's (Maryland Technology Development Corporation) 2023 Maryland Makerspace Initiative Program financial assistance grants. Grants can fund up to \$100,000 in expenses and include technical assistance in the establishment of new makerspaces, building upon an existing makerspace, or in the development of makerspace programs. With this grant, Carroll County Public Library will be able to fund the enhancement of Exploration Commons at 50 East and improve upon our makerspace programs.

Candice Birger, Manager of Exploration Commons at 50 East, perfectly describes how Carroll County Public Library will implement this grant: "The single most-used piece of equipment in Exploration Commons at 50 East is the laser cutter, and the community has continually pushed our booking capacity for the laser to the limit. With TEDCO's financial assistance, we are now able to add an additional Epilog laser to our robust fabrication lab. The Maryland Makerspace Initiative Program grant will partially fund the purchase of an Epilog Fusion Edge to help us better serve our community and meet the demand for high-tech fabrication within Exploration Commons at 50 East."

Terry Rauh, TEDCO's chief finance and operations officer, said the following in regard to this program and its grants: "TEDCO is always working to support and grow businesses in Maryland. This includes creating and supporting opportunities for entrepreneurs to learn, grow, create and innovate. That is why we are excited to announce the 2023 Maryland Makerspace Initiative Program financial assistance grants—these spaces are designed to provide entrepreneurs with resources to help grow their businesses, such as technologies to support prototyping and product creation, as well as training and educational opportunities."

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TEDCO was established by the Maryland General Assembly in 1998, to facilitate the creation of businesses and support their growth in all regions of the State. TEDCO's role is to be Maryland's leading source of funding for technology-based businesses; to provide other business assistance to entrepreneurs throughout the State; and to foster technology transfer and commercialization from the State's universities and Federal labs. TEDCO is leading innovation to market in Maryland and contributing to a robust entrepreneurial ecosystem in the State through its various programs and funds. TEDCO works to enhance economic empowerment by fostering an inclusive and entrepreneurial innovation ecosystem throughout this state. Leading Innovation to Market. TEDCO provides funding, resources and connections that early-stage technology and life sciences companies need to thrive in Maryland.

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