



Making Montana continues to build networks and community while highlighting the importance of **21st century skills** in the workplace and beyond. Exhibitors brought **hands-on activities** to engage students and the public alike, building skills in an accessible and enticing way. The event addresses a **talent shortage** in the manufacturing and tech industries and **increases career opportunities for the emerging workforce.**

At a Glance

1,305 Students

1,065 Public

56 Exhibitors

2,426 Event Total



“ We made many **connections** that are very relevant and useful to us. All of our time was well spent. We are a young organization and this is just the kind of **networking** we need. And, it was tons of **fun** as a bonus. ”

- Manufacturer

RESULTS TELL THE STORY

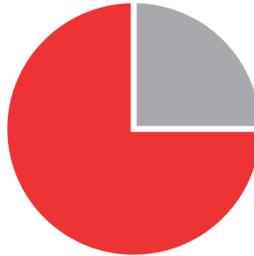


MANUFACTURERS SAY

3/4 of manufacturers responded that as a result of participating in Making Montana they made **a new connection that has the potential to enhance their business.**



TEACHERS SAY



75% agree or strongly agree
25% neither agree nor disagree

As a result of participating in the Manufacturing and Technology Expo, I have a **greater awareness of skills** that are important to manufacturing that are currently taught in most regional schools.

STUDENTS SAY

"It's great as a senior because it's motivating and gets the creative juices flowing."

"It's a great opportunity to learn about local jobs."

"I'm surprised there are this many important jobs in MT"

OBJECTIVES

1. NETWORK OF STAKEHOLDERS

To create a network of manufacturers, learning organizations and economic development resources **to grow the emerging workforce.** Investing in the emerging workforce ensures **long-term economic success in the Flathead Valley.**

2. LOCAL CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

To **raise students' awareness** about local manufacturing and technology opportunities so that they look to local businesses and education when considering **future careers.**

3. SKILLS IN SCHOOLS

To raise the awareness of teachers and school administrators about the skills needed to be successful in manufacturing and technology today. Greater awareness may lead to **more skill development opportunities in local schools.**



“We have an amazing and inspiring maker community in Northwest Montana.”

- Maker



92% of teachers agreed that as a result of participating in the Manufacturing and Technology Expo, they can tell students about **'Maker' skills** that are also important for success in manufacturing.



Over 80% of attendees surveyed agreed that as a result of attending the Maker Faire, they felt **more confident** in their abilities to make something on their own.

4. MAKER SKILLS APPLIED

To raise awareness of the **interrelationship between maker skills and manufacturing and technology skills**. Heightened awareness will lead to a better understanding of career and business opportunities in the Flathead Valley.

5. LIFE-LONG LEARNING

To celebrate making, manufacturing, and technology so that more people **understand the value of inventing**, experimenting and making things with your hands. Uplifting the status of these pursuits leads to **a culture of life-long learning**, community engagement and economic prosperity.



During the Code Girls United "Minnow Tank," teams of middle-school girls pitch apps they developed to solve real world problems.

This unique opportunity for real, engaging, hands-on experiences is **making a difference** in the Flathead Valley.

With over 2,500 people participating over the course of two days, local innovators, educators, businesses and learning institutions are working together to ensure a **thriving economy**.



THANK YOU PLANNING TEAM

ImagineIF Libraries
 Flathead Valley Community College
 Montana West Economic Development
 Job Service Kalispell
 Kalispell Chamber of Commerce
 School District 5
 LC Staffing

