The Birth of Cool:
How Kahuku Public and School Library is Leading the Way For
Makerspaces and STEAM Programming in the
Hawaii State Public Library System

Tamara King, Children’s Librarian
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Think BIG
Start small
Concept?
What we have accomplished: Planning, Design, and Execution
A Little Bit For Everyone

Future Scientist
Stay-at-Home Moms
Entrepreneurs
Big and Little Makers
Seniors – Lifelong Learning

STEM

Kahuku Cool Lab
Branding

Collaboration

Kahuku Cool Lab

Created by Janice Choy, Library Development Services, Hawaii State Library Services
What it offers?

- Mix Media
- Heavy Duty Sewing Machines
- Electric and Manual Die Cutting Machines
- Self Service – Color Prints, spiral binding, or button making

- STEAM Kits
  - Cardboard box kits, snap circuits, simple engineering (Knex), programming, robotics, and more.

- Programs
  - Volunteer and Paid Speaker Classes and Workshops
  - STEAM Camps – Children’s Librarian / Guest Teachers
Access

- Library Sponsored Programming
- Open Lab (In Progress)
- Checking basic STEAM kits out of the library (In Progress)
Kahuku Cool Lab Reservation Hours
By appointment a limit of 1 hour per day.*

Mon – 12:00pm to 5:00pm
Tues – 12:00pm to 4:00pm
Wed – 9:00am to 11:00am
Thurs** 9:00am to 1:00pm
Fri – 1:00pm to 3:00pm
Every 1st Tue – 5:00pm to 8:00pm

*Library reserves the right to cancel reservations and to adjust reservation lengths.
**Except Adult Tech Class days. See Library Calendar for scheduled days.
***Library will limit max reservations to 10 individuals/groups a week.
Partnerships

• Volunteers

• State Departments (DAGS, ESSS, LDSS, Admin, ASB)

• Community: Parents, High School Mentors, Teachers.

• Exploring new partnerships with non-profit groups and Kahuku High and Intermediate School
Funding Partners

• Financial Support
  • Small and Big Friends Groups – Friends of the Library Kahuku (FOLK) ; Friends of the Library of Hawaii
  • Local Grants
  • Generous Volunteers and Donations
  • Community Support
  • Businesses
Trials and Tribulations

- Change of Services
- Safety and Security
- Time – Promises, unknown
- State of Hawaii Protocol

- Staffing
- Unexpected Necessary Equipment/Materials
- Space
Before

From

drab

and

messy
After

To sleek and organized
Working On

Opening Hours Update

Image can be found on The Conversation.com, 12/17/13
Outcomes

• “New regulars” – appealing to broader audience
• Increase in skill sets
• Intergenerational, collaborative learning
• Access to non-traditional library resources
• Library as more relevant in community
• Advocacy for libraries in general
“As a home school family, we appreciated all education supplements we can get. And we love our STEM subjects!” – Kahuku Library Parent
“My son is excited to learn about science and mechanical things. He is excited to come to the library. **It has helped our family become regular visitors** and this particular event has my son imagining so many ideas that he now wants to learn more.” – Kahuku Library Parent
Kahuku
Creator’s Club
(Afterschool Club)
LEGO ROBOTICS,
WINTER PROGRAM
“Because of this program I now know how to read patterns and know what seam allowances are.”
“Thank you so much! That night my kids and I were able to sew bags together. My youngest (age 3) usually doesn’t care for bags even when we buy her expensive ones like Hello Kitty. But this bag, that we sewed at your program, she wears all day every day and even insists on sleeping with it.”

- Gurr Family
“We have a sewing machine at home but never use it. But tonight we learned how to thread a machine and how to thread bobbins, and sew basic stitches…Thank you”

- Male Age 74, Ewa Beach

“This is awesome! I can now label the balls with this stencil at the school I volunteer with ”

- Male Age 68, Laie
Program Statistics

51 STEAM Programs (Jan-Oct 10 Months)
For 1179 Visits
  1044 – STEM
  135 – Art/Makery
Ages 3-80
Rough Budget

- Storage $850.00
- Electronics $1300.00
- Supplies $1400.00
- Textiles $1663.00
- STEM $2700.00
- Renovations $3200.00

Total = $11,113

(Not including in-kind donations)
Our hopes for the future

• Open lab and checkouts will be ready by January 2017
• Tying makerspace activities with our collection
• Reaching out to high school for teen programming
• More partnerships
• Entrepreneurs
• Economic development
Thank You!

Further questions and comments? Feel free to email us at: KCL@librarieshawaii.org