

**For Immediate Release**

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The Greatest Show (& Tell!) in Rochester Returns

**Rochester Mini Maker Faire is going to be really hot this year!  
(Spoiler Alert: Come see a 30 foot-long, 19 foot-tall, animatronic flaming dragon on wheels!)**

Rochester, NY - A flaming dragon art car? Yes! Heavy Meta, Canada's largest art car, will be making its first Rochester appearance at Rochester Mini Maker Faire! Heavy Meta is a massive (30 foot-long, 19 foot-high, 8 foot-wide) metal dragon. Made of hand-cut, hand-welded sheet metal panels, Heavy Meta is a terrifying and beautiful beast, a 10,000 watt sound system, and pneumatic effects that open & close the jaw, and 15 foot wings. And it shoots huge fireballs from its tail and animatronic mouth.

In addition, a couch that you can ride as it drives around the faire, an antique Hercules "hit and miss" engine that makes fresh, home churned ice cream, a violin that lights us as you play it, a robot petting zoo, Toothpick spaceships from Star Wars, Star Trek, and Battlestar Galactica, a sand mandala demonstration, and loads of textiles -- these and more than 100 Makers will be coming together at Rochester Riverside Convention Center on November 18th for the 4th Annual Rochester Mini Maker Faire.

First time visitors to the faire will be inspired by the creativity and ingenuity of the Maker Movement -- a celebration that is part show and tell, science fair, craft fair, and carnival. Those who have already been to Maker Faire will be delighted to see both familiar and new Makers -- 35% of the exhibits this year are newcomers to the Maker Faire.

This celebration of the DIY spirit and creativity in the heart of Downtown Rochester is a full-on community festival with attractions, exhibits, demonstrations, and performances showcasing the intersection of science, technology, arts, and crafts -- many of them immersive and interactive.

The Rochester Mini Maker Faire celebrated its first event in November 2014 with over 90 maker exhibits from across Western New York and 1,500 visitors of all ages in attendance. Over the last three years, the faire has grown to over 130 makers and 3,000 attendees. Maker Faires can be found all over the world. In 2017, over 200 Maker Faires were held around the globe.

A fact sheet and overview of highlighted makers follows.

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Images and Logos available: <http://rochester.makerfaire.com/media-center/>

Photos for press use can be found at: <http://bit.ly/RocMakerFairePRPhotos>

## Fact Sheet:

**What:** the Rochester Mini Maker Faire is a family-friendly event featuring robots and drones, interactive art, sewing and knitting, bikes, Lego creations and K'nex roller coasters, unique handmade crafts, advanced manufacturing and digital fabrication, performances, and educational workshops. There is tons of things to make, play, and discover.

**When:** Saturday, November 18th, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

**Where:** Rochester Riverside Convention Center, 123 E Main St, Rochester, NY 14604

**Tickets:** Advanced prices - Adult \$10/Family \$30, At door prices - Adult \$15/Family Pass \$45

**Website, including ticket sales:** [www.rochester.makerfaire.com/](http://www.rochester.makerfaire.com/)

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/RochesterMiniMakerFaire>

**Twitter:** @rochmakerfaire

### To do and see:

- See Heavy Meta, the flaming dragon
- Warm up beside a spherical sculpture with a wood burning fire, created by Groovy Geometry
- See students take a ride on a robotic, driveable couch
- Visit our "Dark Room" to see LED art including light-up violins
- Learn to solder your first electronics project
- Enjoy an old-fashioned ice cream from a gear-driven "hit and miss" ice cream machine
- Participate in hands on activities for all ages
- Explore the world of textiles
- Listen and record your own maker adventures with Storychick Storybooth
- Learn to use one of a dozen sewing machines in attendance
- See a pancake bot make works of art from pancakes
- Sample fresh-pressed cider
- Be inspired by kid Makers, including the Rosie's Robots, a 11 year old roboticist
- Play over a dozen video and board games developed right here in Rochester
- Meet cosplayers and prop replicators with Flower City Comic Con
- Learn to use a table loom and weave a project
- Marvel at a theme park built with K'nex
- Take a look through the Smartphone Microscope
- Drive robots with local FIRST Robotics teams
- Make and learn with makerspaces from around Rochester
- Launch rockets through recreational plumbing
- Discover a monthly electronic kit developed in Buffalo
- Take a spin with fidget spinners that light up
- Meet a mermaid
- Try on a Big Face Box and watch your face become huge.

The media team can help find makers for interviews and do research for stories as well.

Complete list of makers and exhibits: <https://rochester.makerfaire.com/makers-exhibits-2017/>

The Rochester Mini Maker Faire is independently organized and operated under license from Maker Media, Inc.

### Supported by:

The Rochester Mini Maker Faire is supported by Make Magazine and would not be possible without NYSCATE (The New York State Association for Computers and Technologies in Education). NYSCATE is a non-profit, professional organization representing more than 10,000 technology using educators and administrators in New York State and works to further the use of technology in our schools.

Other sponsors include: Rochester Institute of Technology, WXXI Kids, Wegmans, Heslin Rothenberg Farley & Mesiti, The RIT Center for Media, Arts, Games, Interaction & Creativity (MAGIC), home of the Empire State Development-designated Upstate Region Interactive Technologies Hub and partner organization ROC Game Dev, Rochester Broadway Theatre League, EMA Design Automation, Makeway, Yelp, Mayday! Underground, MyDarndest, Greater Rochester Teen Book Festival, the Rochester Makerspace, and Joanna Eberts.

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