Makerspace Design & Lifecycle Considerations

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Considerations

What drives the design of a space?
- University spaces focus on curricular projects & needs
- Community spaces focus on individual interest and local expertise

How long did it take?
- Wyomakers was established with a $25K fellowship, launching within 3 months of conception
- LIC/SIC were 2-year fundraising and construction launches
- Eureka! planning took ~2 years of community discussion
- Gizmo was a private effort that launched within 6 months of conception

How are equity and access addressed?
- Equity was not an initial consideration for any space
- Access often controlled by funding sources & location
- Academic projects are sometimes subsidized by personal interest projects
- One-time donations & scholarships from the community supplement

What's Next?
- University of Wyoming continues to pursue a network of campus spaces with the LIC serving as a primary hub
- Gizmo recently added a paid staffing position to coordinate K12 curricular integration and support preservice teacher training in the facility
- Eureka! struggles maintain consistent funding & programming

Facility | Location | Level | Access | Staffing | Emphasis
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Wyomakers | Laramie, WY | University | Open | Pd/Vol | DigiTech
Library Innovation Center | Laramie, WY | University | Open | Pd | DigiTech
Student Innovation Center | Laramie, WY | University | Closed | Pd | DigiTech/IndArts
Eureka! Palouse | Moscow, ID | Community/K12 | Open | Vol | DigiTech
Gizmo | Coeur d'Alene, ID | Community/K12 | Controlled | Pd/Vol | DigiTech/IndArts


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