

## PRESS RELEASE

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## Innovation Filled Balboa Park at Maker Faire San Diego

*Thousands flocked to the two-day Festival of Creativity and Innovation*

**SAN DIEGO, CA (October 3, 2016)** – Makers from all over San Diego county and from as far as Australia came out for the second annual Maker Faire San Diego (MFSD), on Saturday, October 1st and Sunday October 2nd. Thousands of spectators attended the festival focusing on creativity and innovation. Over two days, a house was built in the South Palisades parking lot, a giant wooden parabolic pyramid was constructed on the El Prado walkway and a city made entirely of masking tape formed a skyline in the San Diego History Center.

Executive Director of the Balboa Park Cultural Partnership, Peter Comiskey believes that Balboa Park was the perfect backdrop for the largest Southern California full-scale Maker Faire. “The rich tapestry created by the park's unique cultural organizations blends seamlessly with the many different makers to provide an exceptional example of innovation and creativity in the San Diego region. Whether it is children creating air powered rockets and shooting them from the Festival Stage at the Old Globe, adults learning about beer making at the Museum of Man or finding out what the latest tech startups are developing, there truly was something for everyone at Maker Faire this year.”

Participants were invited to get hands-on at many of the exhibits, which included flying micro drones, 3D printing, glass blowing, air rockets and robotics. Crowds gathered for a steampunk fashion show and Lightsaber combats in the Plaza de Panama, and for the tunes of Car Parts Symphony in the San Diego Automotive Museum. The festival also gave Makers the chance to share their expertise in an array of talks on two stages, and behind-the-scenes tours of set design and costuming at The Old Globe. The 2016 event also featured a focus on local brewing communities with two beer gardens and the opportunity to learn about the science and business of brewing inside the San Diego Museum of Man.

Local group, the San Diego Makers Guild, was pleased to shed light on the Maker Movement in San Diego. “The San Diego Makers Guild is happy to be working in partnership with BPCP to host the 2nd annual Maker Faire San Diego... Together we all connect with the joy of making. We feel strongly that with the abundance of makers in the San Diego region, holding more Maker Faires is important”, said Jose Sermenon, President and Co-Founder of the San Diego Makers Guild.

Participating Balboa Park organizations included: Japanese Friendship Garden, Museum of Photographic Arts, The Fleet Science Center, San Diego Air & Space Museum, San Diego Automotive Museum, San Diego Hall of Champions, San Diego History Center, San Diego Model Railroad Museum, San Diego Museum of Man, San Diego Natural History Museum, Spanish Village and The Old Globe.

For a full list of Makers, visit: <http://sandiego.makerfaire.com/meet-the-makers>

**PRESS MATERIALS:**

[CLICK HERE](#) for stills and logos

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**WEBSITE:** <https://sdmakerfaire.org>

**FACEBOOK:** <https://www.facebook.com/SDMakerFaire>

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**ABOUT MAKER FAIRE:**

Maker Faire is an award winning, family friendly event celebrating technology, education, science, arts, crafts, engineering, food, sustainability, and more. Maker Faire has become part of pop-culture, a place for experiential marketing, debuting new technologies and inventions, and celebrating geekdom. Maker Media produces two annual flagship Maker Faires, partners with museums to produce Featured Maker Faires, and works with communities to license Mini Maker Faires around the world. <http://makerfaire.com/>

**HISTORY OF MAKER FAIRE:**

The first Maker Faire launched in May 2006 in the San Francisco Bay Area and was quickly followed by Faires in Austin, Detroit and New York City, as well as others around the world. Technology has lowered the barriers to entry to becoming a Maker and this launched the Maker Movement which fuels Maker Faire. Maker Faire was designed to be forward-looking, showcasing Makers who are exploring new forms and new technologies. But it's not just for exhibiting what's new in technical fields—Maker Faire features innovation and experimentation across the spectrum of science, engineering, art, performance and craft.

**ABOUT THE SAN DIEGO MAKERS GUILD:**

The San Diego Makers Guild is a nonprofit that is committed to fostering the maker community and to promoting, showcasing, and encouraging adoption of making by individuals and public and private institutions, with the goal of advancing education, innovation, commerce and lifelong learning. Our vision is to help develop San Diego into a nationally known maker city. Learn more at <http://SDMakersGuild.org>.

**ABOUT THE BALBOA PARK CULTURAL PARTNERSHIP:**

Balboa Park Cultural Partnership is a nonprofit organization through which 28 arts, science and cultural institutions in Balboa Park collaborate to achieve shared goals. By helping these groups achieve greater organizational efficiency, innovation and excellence, it seeks to contribute to the vitality and sustainability of Balboa Park. For more information visit [www.bpcp.org](http://www.bpcp.org).

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