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Virtual Reality Technology, New @ Your Library!

Largo, MD – For the first time ever, Virtual Reality Technology will be available for area youth at the Prince George’s County Memorial Library System (PGCMLS)! Spice up your summer for free at our amazing Virtual Reality (VR) Roadshows, Camps and Game Jam! “We are the first library system in the nation to offer this type of Virtual Reality game development program,” announced Michael Gannon, Chief Operating Officer for Support Services. “Like our partners, we want youth to view themselves as makers more than just consumers of digital media.”

In collaboration with the Maryland State Department of Education’s Division of Library Development and Services (DLDS), FutureMakers and the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), PGCMLS is building on the state of Maryland’s SPLICE Laptop initiative. “The ways that children communicate, collaborate and independently learn will forever be enhanced -- but not replaced with -- creative technologies,” stated FutureMaker’s founder, Matt Barinholtz.

The Roadshows will showcase Virtual Reality technology and its application in gaming, education and entertainment. These fun, hands-on, community Roadshows will be held on Sundays from 1-4 pm as follows:

Greenbelt Branch	June 12
South Bowie Branch	June 19
Hyattsville Branch	June 26

The half-day Virtual Reality Summer 2016 Camps will be held at all three branches. Visit our website at www.pgcmls.info for registration details. The VR Game Jam will culminate these events.

FutureMaker’s Barinholtz also had this to say about the Virtual Reality initiative: “FutureMakers coaches - visiting experts who inspire young people to grow their invention literacy - are excited to be part of this project, and hope that young people and their families are inspired to continue on with the VR camps and upcoming VR Jam!”

For more information about VR at PGCMLS, visit our website at www.pgcmls.info. *Funds for this program were provided by IMLS through the Maryland State Department of Education, Division of Library Development and Services.*

About The Prince George's County Memorial Library System

The Prince George's County Memorial Library System (PGCMLS), consisting of 19 branches, offers strategies for lifelong learning. Skills development library resources include: Lynda.com and Brainfuse's HelpNow and JobNow. All these services are free with your PGCMLS library card. Also, enjoy Minecraft, 3D printing, Makerspaces, DREAM (Digital Resources for Electronic Applications in Media) lab, Chess Clubs and MAC (Manga and Anime Clubs) free at your library. Try out our new PGCMLS app too! Visit our website at www.pgcmls.info to learn more about what your Library has to offer.

About Partner Organizations



[Maryland State Department of Education's Division of Library Development and Services \(DLDS\)](#) is the State Library Agency of Maryland. DLDS provides strategic leadership, resources, and programmatic support to Maryland libraries to transform lives. Public libraries in Maryland are dedicated to providing excellent learning opportunities which are free and open to the public.



[FutureMakers](#) is the mobile makerspace for grade and middle school students in greater Baltimore and Washington, D.C. They ignite curiosity and build skills among young makers - hands-on problem solvers who tinker, build and thoughtfully play - using traditional tools and cutting-edge technologies. FutureMakers has served thousands of young makers in libraries across seven Maryland counties.



This project was made possible in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). The Institute of Museum and Library Services is the primary source of federal support for the nation's 123,000 libraries and 35,000 museums. Our mission is to inspire libraries and museums to advance innovation, lifelong learning, and cultural and civic engagement. Our grant making, policy development, and research help libraries and museums deliver valuable services that make it possible for communities and individuals to thrive.

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