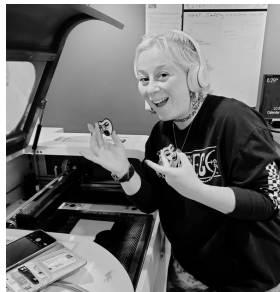


SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Community Access Fund

Ensuring equitable access to personal and economic growth through the makerspace community.



About the Community Access Fund

When did you first discover your passion?

For those who build things, that “a-ha” moment occurs when they make something with their own hands for the first time. The ability to use physical tools to alter your built environment is an immense power to discover.



That power grows exponentially when it is exercised alongside like-minded creators.

At the Tech Valley Center of Gravity, we work hard to keep the price of access as low as possible, but membership is still out of reach for many of our neighbors.

That’s where the Community Access Fund (CAF) comes in: it offsets costs and creates equitable opportunities to experience the power of making.

Every dollar directed to the CAF puts tools, training, and community within reach of someone who would otherwise be left out, and keeps the Capital Region’s makers, artists, and entrepreneurs building here.

By empowering hands-on individuals with access to a makerspace community, we increase employability, add jobs, and keep passionate makers in the Capital Region.

FUNDING NEEDS AT A GLANCE

Pay What You Can Program	\$10,000
Small Business Support Program	\$10,000
Field Trip Experience Program	\$5,000
Manufacturing Residency — Artists (\$2,500 × 3) & Startups (\$2,500 × 3)	\$15,000
STEAM Powered Saturday	\$5,000
Annual Awards Dinner Sponsorship	\$500 – \$10,000
Total Funding Need	\$55,000

Sponsor Visibility

COG members and followers are a wide variety of makers, including engineers of all types (mechanical, software, electrical, etc), career artists, seasoned business owners and new entrepreneurs. Many have a technical background and work in STEM careers.

Street Facing Windows

The intersection of 3rd and Broadway is a main thoroughfare for vehicles and pedestrians. Impressions are DOT estimates.

12,000+
daily

Email Newsletter

The monthly updates on opportunities, programming and goings-on are received by a wide audience, not just members.

2,000+
monthly

Sponsor Wall

Our logo wall, in a prominent location above our kitchen, is clearly visible to visitors, and is often a photographic backdrop.

800+
monthly

Social Media Impressions

The COG is active on Instagram, LinkedIn, and Facebook, with stories highlighting member projects & achievements.

6,000+
monthly

Brochure

The COG's informational brochure for prospective members is distributed in our vestibule, at our front desk, and at events.

100+
monthly

All supporters above \$1,000 will automatically have their logo included in our "Thank You Sponsors" group in our window display, sponsor wall, brochure, and newsletter, sized in proportion to their contribution.

Other benefits are detailed in the specific programs. We will gladly work with you to craft a thank-you package that meets your outreach goals.



Newsletter sponsorship · Job listings in newsletter · Ad in general info brochure · Recognition at all major COG events · Features on COG's social media & email newsletters · Logo in our public-facing window · Private team-building class or event



Pay What You Can Program **\$10,000**

Everyone should have an opportunity to experience the maker community regardless of financial status.

For individuals classified as Low to Moderate Income (LMI), we subsidize membership dues by 25%, 50%, or 75% for up to one year. While we utilize an income rubric to help determine the appropriate level, we let applicants tell us the dues amount and duration that best accommodates their needs, ensuring we're supporting individual circumstances.

HOW PAY WHAT YOU CAN HAS SUPPORTED YOUR NEIGHBORS

- **Tech industry layoffs are a common occurrence.** Members have been able to continue networking and developing skills through personal projects while on a restricted job-search budget.
- **Income hasn't caught up with inflation.** Members have been able to pursue their passions while rightsizing their finances.
- **A traumatic incident, like a fire or the loss of a loved one, has significant emotional and financial tolls.** Members have been able to maintain a sense of normalcy during periods of recovery.

YOUR IMPACT

Supports at least **10 recipients** on a 75% subsidy for one year, or up to **30 recipients** on a 25% subsidy.

"After 20+ years in the IT field, the CoG has played a major role in making it possible for me to pursue my true passion... robotics! The skills and knowledge gained from being involved in the CoG are invaluable, and not a day goes by that I don't use some knowledge from the CoG."

— PAY WHAT YOU CAN RECIPIENT



SPONSOR BENEFITS

\$5,000: Presenting Sponsor of two email newsletters; four social media spotlights; "Engineer" Awards Dinner sponsorship
\$10,000: "Unicorn" sponsor of Awards Dinner; one year rental of one street-facing window

Small Business Support Program

\$10,000

Starting a business is hard. *Starting a manufacturing business is even harder.*

Whether it's a robotics company automating critical tasks or an artist mass-producing a popular creation, the capital needed to build a physical-product business is significant. By offsetting the cost of membership and physical space, we improve the possibility of success while encouraging these businesses to stay in the Capital Region. This develops local workforce and local physical infrastructure, ultimately increasing the likelihood that businesses stay local for the long run.

WHAT THE SMALL BUSINESS SUPPORT PROGRAM (SBS) MAKES POSSIBLE

- **TackLabs** hired additional RPI interns, increasing the amount of R&D trials.
- **Amoeba Tech** was able to test additional prototypes of their smart watch, refining the design prior to engaging with a contract manufacturer and reducing the time to production.

YOUR IMPACT

Supports up to **11 businesses** and **22 employees** for one year.

"This program has allowed us to direct funds towards hiring & purchasing materials... The COG & the SBS program have been literally essential to our development."

— SBS PARTICIPANT

SPONSOR BENEFITS

\$5,000: Presenting Sponsor of two email newsletters; four social media spotlights; "Engineer" Awards Dinner sponsorship
\$10,000: "Unicorn" sponsor of Awards Dinner; one year rental of one street-facing window



Community & Education Programs

Beyond membership subsidies, the Community Access Fund powers hands-on programs that bring the next generation of makers, artists, and founders through our doors. Ask us for more details about each program!

K-12 Field Trip Experience Program

\$5,000

Guided visits that put real tools in the hands of school and community groups, often a student's first time seeing ideas become physical objects.

Sponsor Benefits: Opportunity to speak to students and volunteer at activities, social media shoutouts

STEAM Powered Saturday

\$5,000

9 years running! Free, open-to-all sessions twice a month. Families explore science, technology, engineering, art, and math through making. Serves 500 children annually!

Sponsor Benefits: Logo on handouts, logo on Thinqubator wall, monthly social media shoutouts



Manufacturing Residency

\$15,000

Dedicated residencies giving entrepreneurial makers the time, tools, and space to learn new digital fabrication skills, and take a product from concept to production.

For Artists

\$2,500 × 3 residencies

For Startups

\$2,500 × 3 residencies

Support any number of participants!

Sponsor Benefits: Table at Victorian Stroll showcase, social media shoutouts, office hours with residents



Annual Awards Dinner

Celebrating those who are making an impact at both the COG and the greater Capital Region — in a way that only a makerspace can.



Make lasting connections with approximately **100 attendees** from a broad cross-section of the Capital Region's maker movement — artists, engineers, and entrepreneurs from all of our major industries. Your name and logo will appear on our LinkedIn, Instagram, and Facebook feeds, as well as in our email newsletter, before and afterwards.



TICKETS

Member	\$80
Future Member	\$85

Includes buffet dinner, drink ticket and a seat at a shared table.

HONORARY COMMITTEE

1 ticket	\$180
2 tickets	\$250

Show your COG support! You will be listed on our website, mailed invites, event program and signage.

All proceeds benefit the Community Access Fund programs

Sponsorship Levels

UNICORN

EXCLUSIVE

\$10,000

- Exclusive presenting sponsor — “Presented by (company)” on all advertising & signage, including behind podium
- Dedicated table with 8 dinner & drink tickets
- Full-page program ad
- Space for company swag table
- Microphone opportunity
- Multiple social media mentions
- Ability to resell the sponsorship and invest the revenue into an AI startup

ENGINEER

\$2,500

- 6 dinner & drink tickets
- Dedicated + group social media posts
- Recognition in program & on event signage
- ½ Page program ad
- Microphone opportunity
- Ability to complain the Fabricator sponsors are making changes without submitting change requests.

FABRICATOR

\$500

- 4 dinner & drink tickets
- Dedicated + group social media post
- Recognition in program & on event signage
- Ability to complain the Engineer sponsors are putting absurd tolerances on non-critical dimensions.

NEGOTIABLE BENEFIT OPTIONS FOR ANY \$5,000+ SPONSOR

Newsletter sponsorship · Job listings in newsletter · Ad in general info brochure · Recognition at all major COG events · Features on COG’s social media & email newsletters · Logo in our public-facing window & on the Sponsorship Wall · Private team-building class or event



LET’S BUILD TOGETHER

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