

Who we are



Mission statement: "The Maker's Guild was founded to improve the campus image and inspire creativity through public installation art. In creating such artworks, we hope to strengthen the connection between students and the incredible resources (such as ThinkBox) available to them for individual expression."

Inspiration



About hacker culture at MIT, IHTFP motto — tell the story of the time they stole CalTech’s cannon from their main quad, posing as “movers” with a work order, and trekked it across the country. Campus now embraces the culture, allows art on main dome

Pre-History



Hacker culture inspired a prototypical Makers' Guild to come up with the silly idea to put a dinosaur on the roof. Formed the Case Anarchy Society (CAS) [meeting whenever, wherever] with "Computer Algebra System" as a cover-up.

Foam Dino - Construction



Built out of layered styrofoam slices RTA-ed from Home Depot and glued together. As is visible in the picture, we needed a vacuum cleaner present at all times! Also turns out that spray paint dissolves styrofoam, so it needed to be coated in masking tape

Post-Construction Shenanigans



Talk about how you put some cool sunglasses on it but then some jerks stole the thing. Determined its approximate location from a tip from an anonymous informant. Got it back after a campaign of (light-hearted) psychological warfare involving the sign to the left.

Dino 2: Electric Boogaloo



Wanted to do bigger projects and get them approved, so we embraced our USG overlords. As our first "official" project, we were gonna make a bigger (16-ft-long) version of the same model we used for the styro-dino, with a different construction technique.

How it got there



Hello President Snyder,

I am Alex Grabanski, president of the USG-recognized Maker's Guild. I have been referred to you by Bridget Flowers (University Space Administrator) to ask about the possibility of temporarily installing a 16-foot-long plywood triceratops on the engineering quad.

Construction: Thinkbox to/from hill, then partial construction in the dorm. Sent an email to Barbara Snyder about the prospect of putting a dino on campus, got approved. Carried all pieces to the quad, assembled there. Huge effort, huge payoff.

Where we're headed



Our aim for this year is to continue to do mainline projects like in the past, but also to provide more training opportunities and a greater community outreach to firmly establish a community of makers at CWRU

Current: Chessboard Project



Projects need not be sequentially-constructed. Chessboard project was formulated, had to write software to layout the pieces. Now all but one sheet (the last one to cut out) has been cut out. Got approval to put it in KSL once it's finished

Planned: TARDIS



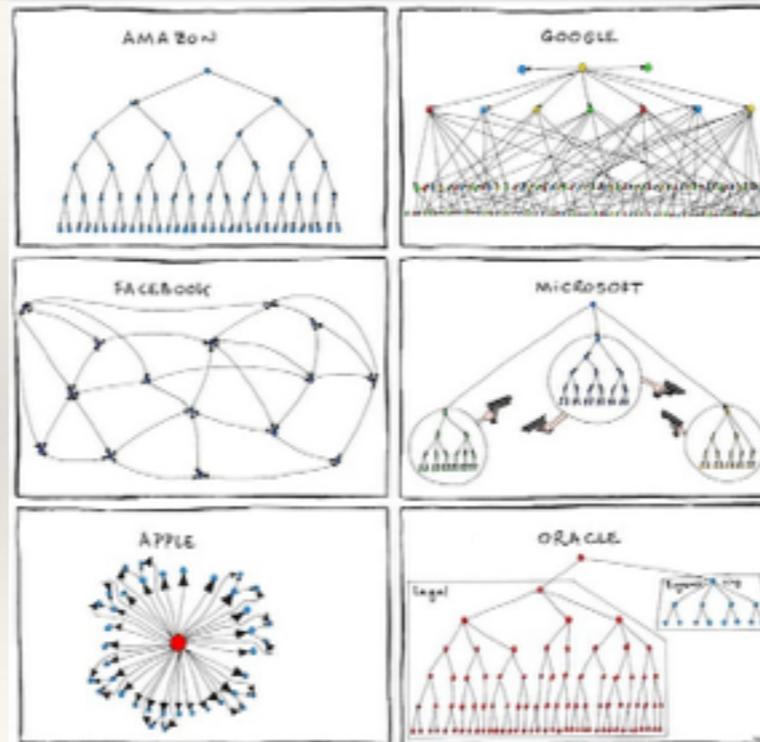
Voted on by members last semester for this one — plan would be to put up a TARDIS, possibly a TARDIS donation library on campus. Could also present a fun cosplaying opportunity, for those into that.

Planned: Your ideas!



Those monolithic plans don't have to be all, though — at GB meetings, members can vote on new project proposals. Once a project is approved by a simple majority, we work to make it a reality by getting funding, constructing it, and contacting administrators for approval to put it up. Funding is either thru Mass Funding (as in the past, once per semester), but we will likely make use of Rolling Funding (anytime) from USG for this semester. Future idea: develop a fund for beginning projects (buying materials/etc) so people in the club can get used to ThinkBox more quickly.

Organizational Structure



We will meet every other week for general body meetings (time and place will be determined by short survey) to discuss the status of projects, determine items on the agenda for the following weeks, etc. All minor decisions are made by majority vote of those in attendance, all major decisions (elections, projects) have optional "can't make it" email ballots. More frequently (especially during builds), we will meet to actually build things in ThinkBox or other locations. For multiple concurrent projects, we may segment the structure into loosely-defined "teams" based on interest.

Image Sources

- ❖ MIT Hacks: hacks.mit.edu
- ❖ TARDIS: [Wikimedia Commons](#)
- ❖ Harold (Stock Photo guy 1)
- ❖ Organizational Chart: [Bonkers World \(Webcomic/Blog\)](#)
- ❖ Shutterstock (Stock Photo guy 2)

Questions?

