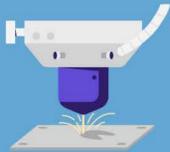


# MAKING AT A DISTANCE

How the Loyola Notre Dame Library adapted the Innovation Station to keep makers safe and active during a public health crisis  
Clara Love, Matthew Treskon, Youlanda Halterman

## THE INNOVATION STATION

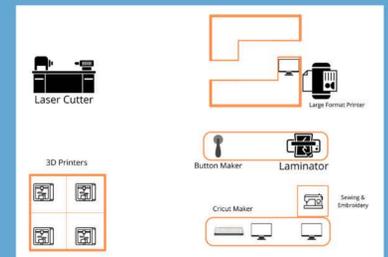
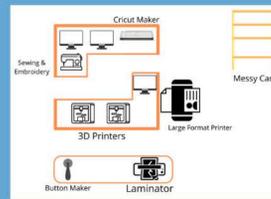


- The Loyola Notre Dame Library's Innovation Station contains:
  - Laser Cutter
  - 3D printers
  - Sewing and Embroidery machine
  - Cricut Maker
  - Large Format Printer
  - Recording Studio
  - Virtual Reality Classroom
  - One Button Studio
  - Button Maker
  - Laminator
  - Cameras, camcorders, and a 360 camera
  - Arduinos, Raspberry Pis, and LEGO Robotics kits
- Some of this equipment requires training to use
- Most of this equipment must be used in the Library



## GENERAL SAFETY MEASURES

- Rearranging equipment in the Innovation Station to allow for social distancing
  - This included removing our Messy Cart, a cart with bins of crafting supplies that created a high-touch environment
- Cleaning and quarantining makerspace kits and checkout items after each use
- Switching all makerspace equipment to a reservation-only use system



## REMOTE TRAININGS

- For equipment that requires one-on-one training, we developed video tutorials and Sidecar modules to quiz trainees.
- After users watch the videos, they still need to demonstrate to a staff member that they can correctly perform key steps to operate the equipment.
- A Zoom Cart in the Innovation Station allows trainees to show these proficiencies to a staff member in real time without being physically close to another person



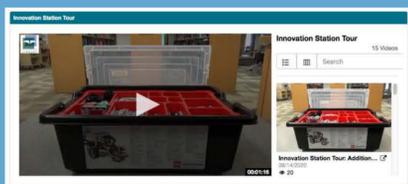
## REMOTE USE

- We began offering remote mediated use of our 3D Printers and Large Format Printer.
- Users submit files for printing, then pick their completed prints up at the Help Desk



## VIRTUAL TOURS

- Many students get introduced to the Innovation Station via in-person class tours that were no longer possible with remote learning.
- We created a narrated video tour of the Innovation Station that covers each piece of technology in the same detail we'd provide for in-person tours.
  - The tour is divided into short (30 seconds-2 minutes) videos for each piece of technology, so viewers can choose which segments to watch.
- We also created a 360 degree tour of the entire Loyola Notre Dame Library with our Yi 360 camera.
  - The 360 photos in this tour showed updates to furniture spacing and safety procedures for patrons.



## MOVING FORWARD

- As campuses re-open, there are several lessons we learned from this process that will carry over into a post-pandemic world.
- Allowing users to submit files for printing without needing to learn to use the equipment or come to the library was a success, and saves staff time. This service will continue.
- Increasing space between equipment provides users privacy and encourages use, since they're less likely to feel like they're bothering other makers. The updated makerspace layout will stay as is.
- Offering trainees plenty of options for the way that they're trained gives them more flexibility.
  - As we begin offering one-on-one in person training again, we will continue to give makers the option to train remotely via Zoom or video tutorials, and to demonstrate what they learned in person or via Zoom.