

TECH TRAINING FOR WOMEN OF COLOR IN KCI'S MAKERSPACE PROGRAM AT FOOTHILL COLLEGE

Classes begin August 2018

LOS ALTOS HILLS, CA (15 June 2018) ð This summer, the Krause Center for Innovation (KCI) at Foothill College will offer an innovative state-approved Makerspace Coordinator certificate program to meet the growing demand for educated makerspace leaders in schools, libraries, and community centers across the Bay Area. As an endeavor to close the gender gap in the male-dominated fabrication lab industry, KCI has also secured funding for its first cohort of **Makerspace UniDiversity** ð an initiative that seeks to make the certificate accessible to residents of California who are women, with an emphasis on welcoming women of color, women who have served in the military, and women with special needs. Other prospective students are welcome to enroll in the regular certificate program, open to all participants. For more information on Makerspace UniDiversity or the Makerspace Coordinator certificate program, class schedules and descriptions, and to enroll, the public may visit <http://bit.ly/makeHERspace>.

Makerspace UniDiversity aims to bring diversity to the makerspaces of the nation by enabling women to gain the skills to become experts in these creative and collaborative work spaces. The initiative was born from KCI's intent to close the gender gap in leadership roles at fabrication labs, with graduates of the program having a farther-reaching impact on women in STEM through their employment in makerspaces at libraries, community centers, and schools. By gaining the tools and expertise to support and encourage girls' interest in STEM at a young age, these women will empower future generations of females to pursue and achieve successful careers in STEM. Makerspace UniDiversity is a ten-month program with five days on-site in the summer (August 6-10) with additional online instruction. Two additional follow-up sessions in fall and two follow-up sessions in winter will complete the requirements to receive a Makerspace Coordinator certificate. Courses covering Adobe Illustrator, Design Thinking Process, 3D

Design Concepts, E-Portfolios, 3D Design and Fabrication, and more, will be taught primarily by powerful women of color who have excelled in their fields of science and technology. Because it is donor-funded, the only cost to qualifying students is a non-refundable \$75 fee.

The **Makerspace Coordinator** certificate program is designed for all people seeking employment in makerspaces within community centers, libraries, and educational settings. The program provides instruction and support for building models and prototypes, strategies to spark innovation and invention, and creative problem-solving and collaboration. With dozens of makerspaces slated to open in schools across the Bay Area, there will be a great need for personnel who are well-versed in running and maintaining a fabrication lab. This certificate is ideal for classified personnel at school sites, community center volunteers and employees, librarians and assistants, and anyone interested in becoming a creative and collaborative member of a makerspace.

About the KCI Makerspace

Designed to inspire creativity, the KCI Makerspace is an exciting new resource for the local community featuring the latest tools to make and create in addition to the courses, certifications, events, and social support to succeed. Foothills students and staff, local area educators, and community members of the broader San Mateo and Santa Clara counties are welcome to enroll in classes and use the makerspace's variety of computer-aided design, manufacturing, and other tools. The makerspace's equipment currently includes six 3D printers (three Dremels, a MakerBot and two Pegasus), two Carvey 3D carving machines, two vinyl cutters, a 60-watt Universal laser cutter, soldering stations, microcontrollers, hand tools, woodworking materials, and sewing machines. Additional laser cutters, woodworking tools (such as routers, hand tools, and non-CAM machines), and other equipment, will be added in the future. For more information on the KCI Makerspace, community memberships, and upcoming programs, please visit <http://krauseinnovationcenter.org/makerspace/>.

About Foothill College

Believing a well-educated population is essential to sustaining and enhancing a democratic society, Foothill College offers programs and services that empower students to achieve their

goals as members of the workforce, as future students, and as global citizens. Foothill works to obtain equity in achievement of student outcomes for all California student populations, and is guided by the core values of honesty, integrity, trust, openness, transparency, forgiveness, and sustainability. The school offers associate degrees and certificates in multiple disciplines. Foothill College educates students from diverse backgrounds that represent the demographics of the Bay Area, with particular attention to underrepresented populations. Students master content and skills which are critical for their future success. They develop and act upon a sense of responsibility to be stewards of the public good.

For Calendar Editors

WHAT: The Krause Center for Innovation (KCI) at Foothill College launches an innovative state-approved Makerspace Coordinator certificate program to meet the growing demand for educated makerspace leaders in schools, libraries, and community centers across the Bay Area. As an endeavor to close the gender gap in the male-dominated fabrication lab industry, KCI has also secured funding for its first cohort of **Makerspace UniDiversity**—an exciting initiative that seeks to make the certificate accessible to residents of California who are women, with an emphasis on welcoming women of color, women who have served in the military, and women with special needs. Other prospective students are welcome to enroll in the regular certificate program, open to all participants.

WHERE: **Krause Center for Innovation, Foothill College**
12345 El Monte Rd, Los Altos Hills
(I-280 & El Monte Road, Los Altos Hills)

WHEN: **9:00am-3:00pm, August 6-10**
Two follow-up sessions in the fall: October 20 & November 17
Two follow-up sessions in the winter: February & March (TBD)

The remainder of the instruction will take place via an online learning platform.

COST: **\$75**

INFO: For more information or to enroll, the public can visit
<http://bit.ly/makeHERspace>

-30-

PRESS: Contact Steph Keay, Carla Befera & Co.
(650) 327-1200 | steph@cb-pr.com

PHOTOS: Media may download high-res photos at:
<http://www.cbpr.co/makerspaceuniversity/>