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**Mozilla Kicks Off Global ‘Maker Party’ Celebration to Spread Web Literacy**

MOUNTAIN VIEW, California, July 15 – Mozilla launches a worldwide celebration of web literacy this week, bringing tens of thousands of digital enthusiasts together for ‘Maker Parties’ that place internet learning and making at the center of 21st-century citizenship.

“It’s about more than just coding,” said Mozilla Executive Director Mark Surman. “It is a great call to arms that puts the world’s users at the center of the web. Success in the 21st century depends on web literacy – and on making the web what we all want it to be.”

This year’s [Maker Party](http://party.webmaker.org/) cycle, an annual 60-day blitz of volunteer-run events in hundreds of cities around the world, is part of the Mozilla [Webmaker project](https://webmaker.org/) dedicated to teaching web literacy as the educational background needed for success anywhere today.

Maker Party themes run the gamut from mechanics of making websites to broader issues like privacy and data protection, but are united across geographical, cultural and generational lines by shared focus on “teaching the web” through proactive exploration of digital tools and a culture of participation and production.

They are inspired by the enormous unfolding potential for all people to make themselves heard in the global conversation about nothing less than changing the world for the better, and by the need to make that energy instrumental through hands-on making, teaching and learning.

“This is the education every student can and should receive,” the Aspen Institute’s special Task Force on Learning and the Internet said in its landmark report “[Learner At The Center of a Networked World](http://aspeninstitute.fsmdev.com/documents/AspenReportFinalPagesRev.pdf)” this year.

“A new vision of learning is emerging,” said the report, citing Mozilla’s work in developing new tools and pathways making web literacy central to education worldwide.

Mozilla’s partners in the 2014 Maker Party campaign include the [Institute of Museum and Library Services](http://www.imls.gov/), the [Association of Science -Technology Centers](http://www.astc.org/index.htm), [National 4-H](http://www.4-h.org/) Council, [Statewide Afterschool Networks](http://www.statewideafterschoolnetworks.net/), the [MacArthur Foundation](http://www.macfound.org/) and the [National Writing Project](http://www.nwp.org/).

The 2014 Mozilla Maker Party season, in its third year beginning July 15 and running to September 15, brings web users of all nationalities, genders, ages and economic means together proactively at nearly 2,000 events in over 300 cities to help make that vision a new reality.

Anyone, anywhere can engage in making the creating the future mechanics, culture and global citizenship of the internet by signing up on the [Webmaker website](https://webmaker.org/) today.

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