

In Rural New Hampshire, Creativity Builds Connection — and the Movement Keeps Growing

Makers Mill invites national supporters to help sustain a model of creativity, skill-building, and community for small towns everywhere.

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Josh Arnold, Executive Director

rooms of <u>Makers Mill</u>, something powerful is happening. Sawdust mixes with laughter, sewing machines hum beside soldering irons, and ideas become reality in the hands of everyday people.

It's not just about what's being made — it's about what's being remade: confidence, connection, and community. In just three years of operation, Makers Mill, a nonprofit

community makerspace and vocation hub in rural New Hampshire, has become one of New England's most dynamic creative spaces — a place where artists, teens, retirees, and families come together to learn, share skills, and feel like they belong.

"We've heard people call it a lifeline," says Executive Director Josh Arnold. "That tells us we're doing something deeply needed."

What's happening at Makers Mill reflects a growing national movement — where makerspaces are becoming modern-day town squares: places that bridge generations, teach practical skills, and rebuild the sense of belonging that so many communities have lost.

This year alone, volunteers contributed more than 4,700 hours, instructors led 276 classes, and hundreds of students gained new skills, friendships, and confidence. From woodworking and metalsmithing to digital design and fiber arts, each space hums with possibility.

But as public grant funding decreases in 2026, community support will be what keeps that creative energy alive — not just in Wolfeboro, but as a model for how small towns everywhere can thrive through creativity and collaboration.

To sustain that momentum, Makers Mill invites donors nationwide to make a year-end contribution or explore tax-smart giving options through its partnership with

FreeWill.com/SmartGiving/MakersMill.

"Where there's a Mill," Arnold adds, "there's a way." Learn more or donate at www.makersmill.org/donate.

About Makers Mill:

Located at 23 Bay Street in Wolfeboro, NH, Makers Mill is a nonprofit makerspace offering shared tools, classes, and studios for hands-on learning in arts, trades, and technology. Its mission is to enrich lives and strengthen communities through creativity, collaboration, and skill-building. Together, we're building creativity, connection, and opportunity. Learn more at www.makersmill.org

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Maker Jeanne Flanagan prepares for a fiber arts class at Makers Mill, Wolfeboro NH's Community Makerspace + Vocation Hub

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