



Happy Thanksgiving

Dear Friends of TVCOG,

Holiday season is officially here, and we want to take a moment to express our gratitude for each and every one of you during this Thanksgiving Holiday. Tech Valley Center of Gravity owes our continued existence to many people like you, the wonderful community who has supported our vision since our grassroots beginnings as a Facebook group in 2011. We appreciate your continued support, and want to wish you all a wonderful Thanksgiving weekend.

We also want to remind you that TVCOG offices are closed in observance of the holiday starting at 5 pm today, Wednesday November 24, until 11 am Monday, November 29. There will be no staff or volunteers here during that time period. As always, the space remains open to members during their designated membership hours. Members should remember not to use tools or equipment with safety designation of "Red" while alone in the building.

Have a joyful and restful holiday weekend.

--Dan Falkenstrom

TVCOG Facilities and Incubator Director, Interim Executive Director

News from the Makerspace



Celebrate Giving Tuesday With Us!

This year, on November 30th, TVCOG will be participating in Giving Tuesday, a day dedicated to giving back. All funds raised during this year's campaign will directly support our Community Access Fund. This fund allows us to offer partially and fully subsidized memberships and other resources to members of our community who have a demonstrated financial need.

The Community Access Fund is instrumental in ensuring that our community is accessible and inclusive. By giving, you could help support a membership for a K-12 STEM instructor looking to develop children's programming, or help a young entrepreneur join our Business Incubator and turn their dream into a thriving company. **This year, our funds will be matched up to \$2,500, thanks to a generous donation from Agora Media.** Act now and make your tax-deductible donation today.

In the Spotlight...

TVCOG Celebrates Victorian Stroll Season With Make It Upstate!

The Troy Victorian Stroll is a beloved holiday tradition that has taken place in downtown Troy for nearly 40 years. Each year, the streets of historic downtown Troy transform into a bygone Victorian era, and the community gathers for holiday shopping and festivities. This year, the Stroll will be taking place all month long, as a Victorian Stroll Season, which will have its official kickoff on December 5.

TVCOG has partnered with [Make it Upstate](#) to provide an entire weekend of events! Our special Victorian Stroll Weekend will take place from 10am-2pm on Saturday, December 4 and 12pm-5pm, Sunday, December 5, and will feature a variety of exciting attractions! See below for more details on the events taking place each day.

10am-2pm, Saturday, December 4 Family Festivities

Make It Upstate's Maker's Market will be here from 10am-2pm, for a day of family focused fun and shopping! Make It Upstate will also be providing family holiday portraits throughout the day. The THINQubator at TVCOG will also be hosting a special extended STEAM-Powered Saturday for the day: wearable electronics!



12pm-5pm, Sunday, December 5 Official Victorian Stroll Kickoff Date

Make It Upstate will have an extended market during the official Victorian Stroll Kickoff date, when we join the rest of Downtown Troy in celebrating the season. TVCOG will be open from 12-5pm for market goers, and for anyone who may be interested in taking a tour.

* Face masks are required for all attendees ages 2+ regardless of vaccination status. Masks may be removed while in the Board Room for portraits only. TVCOG members should anticipate limited machine access during these events.

Classes, Events & Programs



Fused Glass Jewelry

Saturday, December 4 | 3-5:30pm

Explore the art of fusing glass. Participants can choose to make either fused glass jewelry or Holiday ornaments. All materials provided. [Learn more or register here.](#)

General Membership Meeting*

Tues. December 7 | 6:30pm

Join us for our monthly membership meeting! Our agenda this month includes holiday event updates as well as our regular membership updates.



Pewter Casting

Wednesday, December 16 | 7-8:30pm

Learn pewter casting, a fun and fast way to make unique metal objects, in this hands-on class. [Learn more or register here.](#)

Work Zone Office Hours*

Zone Office Hours allow members to connect with the Zone Coordinator, to get help with anything related to the zone. Available in the Electronics Zone at 7pm on Tuesdays with Amelia, and in the Metal Shop at 6pm on Wednesdays with Alex.

* Indicates events which are only open to TVCOG members. Please [register online](#) for Office Hours.

[View Our Entire Events Calendar](#)

December Holiday Hours

TVCOG offices will be closed from 9 am on Friday, Dec. 24 to 9 am on Monday, Dec. 27 for the winter holidays. Staff will be unavailable for member assistance or public inquiries. As always, members may access the building during the hours associated with their membership level.

News from the Manufacturing Incubator

Upcoming Incubator Events & Programs

FOOD FOR THOUGHT #15: CREATING INCLUSIVE PATHWAYS FOR THE NEXT GENERATION OF DATA SCIENTISTS

BUSINESS & PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT VIRTUAL LUNCHEON SERIES



Featuring Dr. Immanuel Williams
CEO, GATO365 LEARNING CENTER

Food for Thought #15: Creating Inclusive Pathways for the Next Generation of Data Scientists

Wednesday Dec. 1 | 12-1pm

How can we nurture the next generation of data scientists? Dr. Immanuel Williams is the CEO and founder of GATO365 Learning Center, a data science academy composed of material in data carpentry, statistics, and machine learning. He uses his research in culturally relevant data to get students from all backgrounds excited about the information they are learning.

Dr. Williams is also a dedicated statistics lecturer at California Polytechnic State University. He earned his bachelor's degree in mathematics from the University of Maryland Baltimore County and a master's degree in statistics and a Ph.D. in psychometrics from Rutgers University. Dr. Williams is dedicated to changing the lives of all his students by initially believing in their ability to learn data science, machine learning, and statistics. He is the chief curriculum developer for the math worksheets found in GATO365 Math Boot Camp. He spends most of his time developing and designing curriculum for all audiences so that every student has the opportunity to learn complicated concepts.

[Learn More & Register Here](#)



HATCHED Inventors & Entrepreneurs Meetup

Thursday Dec. 2 | 6:30 - 8pm

Join us the first Thursday of each month to connect with other creative souls, product developers, and others who are interested in bringing ideas to life.

SHARING NIGHT: An informal gathering where attendees can introduce themselves and show off what they've been working on. Share your project's current status, get and give feedback, explore next steps, and connect with potential team members.

[Register Here](#)

News from the THINQubator

STEAM-Powered Saturday will be extending its hours for December, taking place from 10am-2pm, during Make It Upstate's Holiday event here at TVCOG. Project kits will be available for pickup upon request all weekend or until supplies run out. Then, STEAM-Powered Saturday will be taking a break for January, due to the New Years Weekend, and returning in February!

Learn All About E-Textiles!



Next STEAM-Powered Saturday: Wearable Electronics

Saturday, Dec. 4 | 10am-2pm FREE

Every 1st Saturday children ages 4-12 and their families are invited to join us for a fun, FREE creative hands-on project. Brought to you through the generous support of the Albany Society of Engineers Foundation, these mind-expanding projects help children discover creative play through science, technology, engineering, the arts and mathematics.

This month's special Victorian Stroll inspired project is "Wearable Electronics." Explore the world of electronic textiles (E-Textiles) by using felt, conductive thread, and LEDs to create a light up pin, wristband, or pencil case with an on/off switch. Or try making your own design!

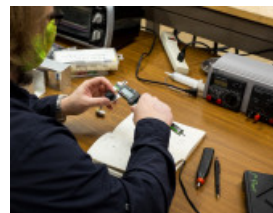
This project is free, but donations are welcome. This event is part of the Holiday Victorian Stroll Weekend at TVCOG with Make It Upstate, and has been extended for an extra hour to coincide with the Holiday event's hours. This is an in-person, drop-in program; pre-registration is not required. Masks are required for all attendees.

[Learn More](#)

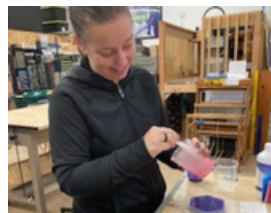
Updates from our Creative Community

Made at the COG

What our Members are working on right now.



Volunteer Coordinator Steve tinkers in the Electronics section, taking some measurements for a project.



TVCOG volunteer Sabrina experiments with resin art during our weekly Member social nights!



Drew joined us for November's STEAM-Powered Saturday, and made this effective egg protection contraption!

Featured Sponsor



Agora Media is a full service media production studio, helping companies, nonprofits, and institutions small and large level up. Agora Media provides livestream video production, online events, event management, video production, photography, and audio services. Some of Agora Media's past productions have included the 9th Annual Virtual Sammy Awards, GameFest 2021, and TVCOG's STEAM-Powered Saturday videos. [Learn more about Agora Media here.](#)

[Click Here to Learn About Sponsorship](#)

Tech Valley Center of Gravity is a makerspace, prototyping center, manufacturing incubator, STEAM-education center and creative community located in the heart of downtown Troy, New York. A member-supported 501(c)(3) community resource organization, the Center of Gravity serves members from Albany, Columbia, Rensselaer, Saratoga and Schenectady counties and beyond with space, tools, technology and expertise to explore and exercise their creativity, turn ideas into objects of art and utility, and launch new ventures based on their own ingenuity.

Join Our Creative Community

We are open and operating at standard hours. Membership hours and access types depend on the membership level you choose. Membership is open to anyone ages 18+ so [join today!](#)

TVCOG's COVID-19 Protocols

Tech Valley Center of Gravity is committed to following guidelines set forth by New York State and to ensuring the safety of our community members. Review our Covid-19 policies and procedures [here](#).

Tech Valley Center of Gravity
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