

September 17, 2013**IMMEDIATE RELEASE****The Textile Museum of Canada launches Wide Open Wednesdays, a new programming series celebrating maker culture in the GTA, with free 3D printing workshop on Wednesday September 25th.**

TORONTO – Beginning September 2013, the Textile Museum of Canada presents Wide Open Wednesdays (WOW), a new series of free public workshops related to both digital media and traditional crafts. Working with community organizations such as Maker Kids, Golden Horseshoe Green Tech, Story Planet, Collage Collective and the Toronto Guild of Spinners and Weavers, Wide Open Wednesdays will celebrate the GTA's dynamic maker culture and promote its key principles of openness, sustainability, and self-sufficiency.

MakerKids, a non-profit organization offering workshops for kids to develop skills in electronics, woodworking, sewing, crafting, hacking, tinkering and making of all kinds, will be facilitating a 3D printing workshop on September 25 from 5-9 pm. Collage Collective, a group of artists, creative collaborators, and friends who gather at different cultural venues and events around Toronto to show and make collage, will also be hosting an Open Studio at the Museum that night.

Objects made during the 3D printing workshop and other featured workshops during the series will be included in our participatory exhibition *The Imaginary Museum*. *The Imaginary Museum* is a whimsical open source collection of historical artifacts, acknowledging the fact that new forms of making like crowd-sourcing and 3D printing have transformed our collective "memory bank." Both the exhibition and the workshops will provide new approaches to worlds of knowledge and shaping cultural histories.

Wide Open Wednesdays are free to all through the support of Mozilla, the Ontario Trillium Foundation, and Hive Toronto. Hive Toronto is a city-wide lab of educators, designers, scientists, technologists and other youth development experts who collaborate to develop innovative and informal learning experiences for youth. Produced by the Textile Museum of Canada, Wide Open Wednesdays illustrates this approach to informal, interdisciplinary learning and supports co-creative and intergenerational participation.

For more information, visit www.textilemuseum.ca, or contact the Education Programs Coordinator at 416-599-5321 x2228 or programs@textilemuseum.ca.

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WOW media contact: Marketing and Communications, Textile Museum of Canada,
marketing@textilemuseum.ca, 416.599.5321 x2239

Textile Museum of Canada

55 Centre Avenue (Dundas & University, St Patrick subway)
Toronto, ON M5G 2H5
T (416) 599-5321 F (416) 599-2911
www.textilemuseum.ca

Museum Hours

Open 7 days a week 11 am - 5 pm
Wednesdays 11 am - 8 pm

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