



Ideas. Projects. Comrades. Childcare.

3288 Adeline Street, Berkeley, CA 94703

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MOTHERSHIP HACKERMOMS / Media Kit

CONCEPT

[Mothership HackerMoms](http://mothership.hackermoms.org) is the first-ever women's hackerspace, a collaborative space where do-it-your-sellers share tools, intelligence and community. It is a new kind of playground and workspace dedicated to mothers. It is a non-profit, membership-based organization that provides a safe, creative space for mothers. The hackerspace provides what mother often need most: childcare. Members use the space for co-working, collaborations, workshops, projects, events and community in a mother-friendly culture. The hackerspace opened in April 2012.

MISSION

Mothership HackerMoms gives creative mothers the time and space to explore DIY craft and design, hacker/maker culture, entrepreneurship, and all manner of creative expression - with childcare. Its first priority is to support the mother. HackerMoms believes that happy mothers – that is, fulfilled women who are learning and using their talents – are good for the family, the community and the world. HackerMoms also model active creative lives for their kids who learn, explore and create alongside them. They also welcome dads.

HACKERSPACE

The hackerspace is an art-gallery-like 1,000 square foot storefront on the Oakland-Berkeley border. This vibrant district shares the same indie art and food culture of neighboring Temescal in Oakland.

The space is organized into a living room/nursing area, a communal and co-working area, computer room and childcare room. There's also a small workshop, library and kitchenette. Equipment includes a Juki industrial sewing machine, a screenprinting light box and station, handheld power tools and supplies for art, painting, craft and textiles.

HackerMoms membership allows access to our partner hackerspace, [Ace Monster Toys](#) in Oakland. They are fully equipped with a large woodshop, electronics lab, laser cutter, makerbots and CNC machine.



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CLASSES

HackerMoms offers workshops, labs and clubs that address all aspects of a mother's life, including art and craft, personal growth, business, technology and children. Classes are peer-lead by members or invited experts. Workshops have included Coding HTML/CSS/Javascript in a Day, Wills and Estate Planning, Ergonomics for Mothers, Resin Art, Bookmaking and Terrariums.

Reflecting the diversity of our membership, other workshops are more alternative in nature, such as Homeschooling 101, making Breastmilk Baby Lotion, Failure Club, Sport Hooping and Motherhood Sexuality.

In development is a Hacker Sprouts program that will introduce younger kids to STEAM concepts (science, technology, engineering, arts, math) and making their own projects. For kids age 7+, our partner hackerspace at Ace Monster Toys offers a Hacker Scouts program for engineering, building and robotics.

EVENTS

HackerMoms participate in many community, art and hacker/maker events like Maker Faire, Mini-Maker Faire, San Francisco Green Festival, momsrising.org, Oakland Art Murmur and Bizarre Bazaar. Promotional events sponsored by HackerMoms will include meet-ups, exhibitions, sales and children's events. Open houses are held weekly for the public.

TEAM

Sho Sho Smith - Founder

Sho Sho Smith worked professionally for 15 years as a business writer for Fortune 500 companies in finance, technology and retail industries before she went rogue. She is a corporate dropout turned social entrepreneur, MFA turned freelance writer, design lover turned hacker/maker and former militant anti-breeder. Her motto for HackerMoms, for herself, and her two young daughters is, "Be a Pattern for the world." She founded Mothership HackerMoms in the midst of her husband's battle with cancer,



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when she needed a positive project that reinforced her values of creativity, community and motherhood. HackerMoms saved her life, and by extension, her family's life.

Karen Agresti - Marketing and Social Media

Karen Agresti has been a set decorator and buyer for commercials, film and TV projects including HBO's "Hung," indie feature "Easy A," and cult favorite "The Big Lebowski" (yup, her living rooms sports a autographed bowling ball from The Coen Brothers.) She's a dark comedic writer of screenplays and magazine articles. Her current subject is the underbelly of the infertility business. A die-hard dumpster diver, community organizer and creative mother of two, Karen is a self-proclaimed brainstormer with an endless source of ideas and projects on business, design and the art of motherhood. Karen spearheaded the hackerspace launch, Kickstarter video and key fundraising events.

Samantha Matalone Cook - Community Outreach and Education

Samantha Matalone Cook is an educator, writer and artist. She launched Hacker Scouts, a mentoring and making program for kids in engineering, electronics and robotics. In addition to writing and blogging about feminism, parenting and homeschooling for major publications, she educates her three children at home. Samantha has started many grassroots groups and is an active member of the hacker/maker and homeschooling communities. Samantha has been a speaker and advocate for HackerMoms at the Maker Faire and Mini Maker Faire 2012 events.

Hayden Sims - Operations

Hayden Sims has worked as an accountant for non-profits and private businesses. But she's really a passionate maker, shameless art hack, mother of two and community activist with a keen business sense. Hayden embodies the spirit of social entrepreneurship with her startup non-profit, Booby Love, that matches mothers who donate breastmilk to those needing it. With her profound ingenuity, Hayden obtained babysitters through an internship training program, getting free childcare for members five days a week.

Shannon Nicholls - Fundraising

Shannon Nicholls is a photographer and children's clothing designer for her label, Fig & Peach. An avid maker and mother of two, she believes that a good day must include running a few miles, creating something new and doing no errands. She is currently writing essays and a memoir. Supporting HackerMoms from behind the scenes (and the lens), Shannon is the resident photographer, events chronicler, blogger and visual designer.



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ADVISORY BOARD

We are grateful to the following hackerspaces who have been generous with their partnership, guidance and expertise through the founding and growth of HackerMoms, particularly on issues of governance, membership, fundraising and non-profit 501(c)(3).

Chris Cook - President, Ace Monster Toys Hackerspace

James Carlson - Founder, Bucketworks Hackerspace and School Factory

Christopher Wang - Co-Founder, Tokyo Hackerspace

CONTACT

Karen Agresti, Marketing and Social Media, at info@hackermoms.org

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