Communities and the circular economy
29th March, 2022
Coventry, UK

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Welcome to Fab Lab Coventry!!

But what is a Fab Lab??
FabLab Coventry = 2 Inspirational community maker spaces that combine research and citizen science with practical social innovations to support vulnerable communities and the circular economy.

All are welcome and the kettle is always on.....................

FabLab Coventry

Unit 27,
City Arcade,
Coventry City Centre,
CV1 3HX.

ECO FURNITURE FACTORY

Unit 4,
FarGo Village,
Far Gosford Street,
Coventry,
CV1 5FB.
Fab Lab Coventry

Community space for all members of the community to come together to learn how to make things using a mixture of digital technology and more traditional methods.

Digital Technology

• 3D Printers
• Laser Cutter
• Vinyl Cutter
• CNC Machine

Traditional

• Woodworking tools and machines
• Sewing machines
• Jewellery making tools
• And various other crafting and making equipment.
The Team at FabLab

TECHNICAL INSTRUCTORS

Our team of friendly and welcoming instructors are available to run our courses and provide you with the support to learn new skills.

SUPPORT STAFF & MENTORS

Behind the scenes are the team securing funding and completing paperwork to get the people of Coventry onto our courses.

PARTICIPANTS

The vital part of FabLab are those who take part in our courses and workshops. Keen to develop new skills and give back to Coventry.
Why FabLabs?

*Physical spaces can bring the urban living lab concept to life*

FabLabCov: 1 of **2,000 worldwide** = access to communities doing similar things across the world

Growing attention on the role of **social innovation spaces** in sustainable urban development


Perfect places to recruit, coordinate and manage **citizen science and citizen driven social innovation actions**. Helps to overcome fear of institutions and bring different parts of a city’s ecosystem together.
At Fab Lab Coventry we aim to support a circular economy within the city.

Not a linear economy
At Fab Lab Coventry we aim to support a circular economy within the city.
FabLab/living lab approach

- Co-creation
- Real-life setting
- Multi-stakeholder participation
- Multi-method approach

Community focus group

Active Citizen Engagement e.g. walking audits

Citizen Social Science
Citizen Social Science (Level 2 UK qualification/course)

Our Definition

- Social or community-based research
- conducted by members of the public
- with the support of professional researchers

- For the benefit of citizens, scientists and the community/society

Associated with lots of other terms:
- Community participatory action research and peer research
What a citizen social scientist can study?

• A topic of interest or importance to where they live, their ‘community’, friends and family

• Some examples:
  • What makes migrants feel valued and welcome in Coventry?
  • How can local people access affordable eco products?
  • How can we monitor air quality at home?
  • Peoples experience of walking into the city centre from 3 miles outside

• Start off thinking big but create a small, focused and manageable project – a pilot
LOCALLY PRODUCTIVE, GLOBALLY CONNECTED CITIES

32 YEARS 204 DAYS 03 HOURS 59 MINUTES 15 SECONDS

Until cities produce everything they consume
what do we need to be a Fab City?

An Urban Mine.............
Upcycling at Fab Lab
Public Characters

“Lowly, unpurposeful and random as they may appear, sidewalk contacts are the small change from which a city’s wealth of public life may grow.”— Jane Jacobs, "The Death and Life of Great American Cities"
The Local hero's of Circular Economy + FabLab
SIP N SWAP
Sunday 29 March @ 2.30 pm
Haus of Kraft programme
Every Wednesday pm @ FabLab

• To provide fashion and craft workshops for community makers led by international artists.
• To provide hands-on workshops focused on learnings from the natural world
• To work with natural living systems,
• Contribute to sustainable and circular economies.
• All garments and participants will have the opportunity to be part of a showcase event in April 2022.
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