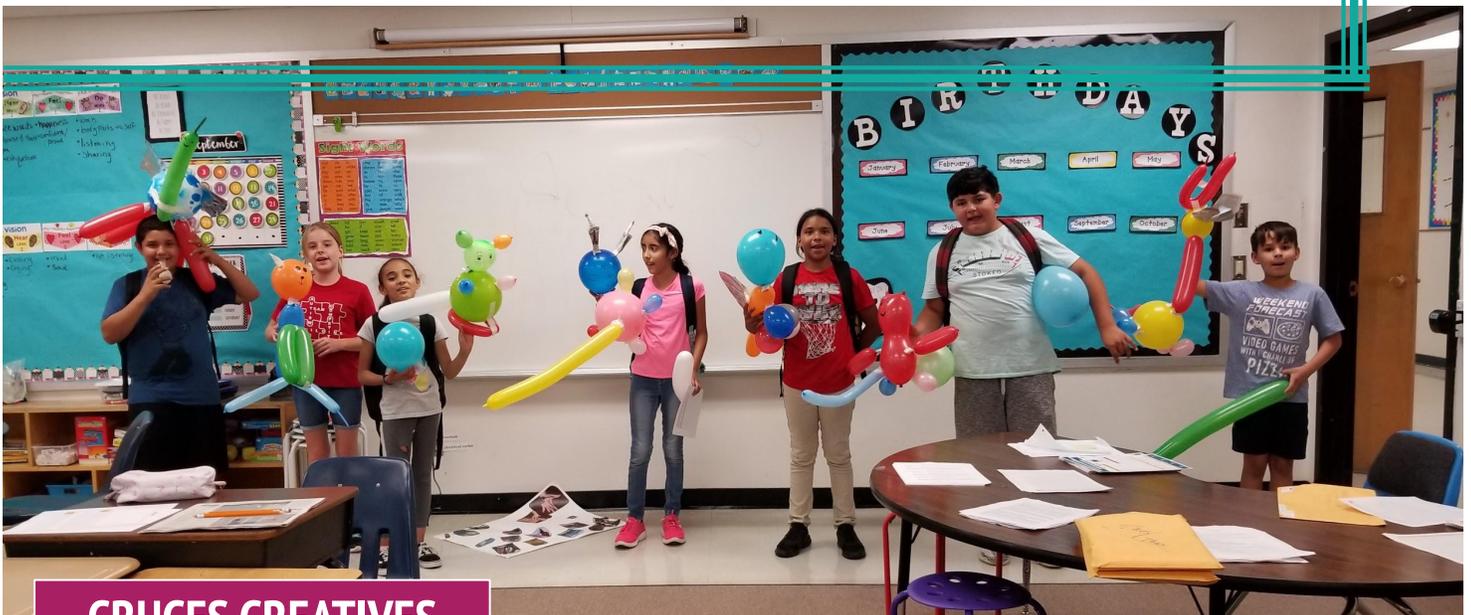


CRUCES CREATIVES

2019 Activities Report

LEARN – MAKE – CONNECT



CRUCES CREATIVES

A non-profit makerspace that connects people with the tools, training, and community to make practically anything

TOOLS/SPACES INCLUDE:

- 3D PRINTERS
- CNC MACHINES
- TOP-NOTCH SOFTWARE
- WOOD SHOP
- BICYCLE SHOP
- TEXTILE LAB
- AUDIO RECORDING STUDIO
- PHOTO/VIDEO STUDIO
- ELECTRONICS ROOM
- CHILDREN'S ROOM

205 E LOHMAN AVE.
LAS CRUCES, NM 88001
(575) 448-1072



CRUCES CREATIVES OVERVIEW



Cruces Creatives is a 501(c)(3) non-profit makerspace that fosters economic development, furthers education, supports the arts, protects the environment, strengthens social connections, and advances science and technology in Doña Ana County, New Mexico, by connecting people with the tools, training, and community to make practically anything.



In this report, you can learn how Cruces Creatives has pursued these missions in 2019.

The report is organized into three sections:

- 1) program descriptions and highlights,
- 2) awards and recognitions, and
- 3) the 2019 Cruces Creatives budget.



CLASSES AND WORKSHOPS

Each year, Cruces Creatives hosts over 600 classes and workshops, most of them free and open to everyone in the community. Through the workshops, participants learn not only how to complete particular projects, but also how to use the wide range of tools available at Cruces Creatives.

Benefits:

- Education
- Quality of Life
- Arts
- Economic Development
- Life Skills Development





Examples:

Basic Wood Shop Safety Training

Each Wednesday morning, instructors at Cruces Creatives teach the fundamentals of woodworking safety with a 1:1 teacher-to-student ratio. After taking the class, participants are ready to use the wood shop at Cruces Creatives.

Crossroads Songcrafting Collaborative

Every first Wednesday of the month, area songwriters meet at Cruces Creatives to share knowledge and critique each other's songs. With the support of the group, participants have been able to earn regional, national, and even international recognition in contests including the Great American Song Contest, the U.K. Songwriting Contest, and the Santa Fe Bluegrass and Old Time Music Festival Songwriting Competition.

Weaving on a Portable Frame Loom

Taught in collaboration with the Las Cruces Weaver's Guild, this class teaches participants how to weave on small, portable looms made at Cruces Creatives.





STEAM TEAM

The Steam Team Programs through Cruces Creatives, in partnership with the NMSU STEM Outreach Center and the Las Cruces Public School System, offer 4th and 5th graders hands-on opportunities to learn integrated science, technology, engineering, arts, and mathematical skills through project-based learning.

Benefits:

- Experimental, Project Based Learning
- Quality of Life
- Childhood Development
- Integrated Arts and STEM Education
- Economic Development





Sample Projects:

- After studying life science and **anatomy**, 4th and 5th graders in the Steam Team designed and built fantastical chimeras--alebrijes--that incorporated **circuitry** and computer programs, developed by the students, that make the alebrijes interactive. Programmed by the students, when the alebrijes were touched, they made sounds that the students had recorded. Additionally, students learned **non-toxic soldering** and made light-up **LED** components for their alebrijes.
- In spring 2020, students will be learning **hydraulics** and building **Rube Goldberg machines** that make use of the tools and skills students have developed over the school year.
- Alongside major projects, students go through mini-lessons, such as making magnetic putty--a project that taught math, ratios, and the **scientific method**.





HAZLO

The HAZLO (“Make It / Do It”) Program helps K-12 students develop life and academic skills through projects that students choose, with the support of mentors and the vast range of tools available at Cruces Creatives. To make sure that the program is accessible to all students in the community, projects are completely funded through a partner 501(c)(3), The HAZLO Foundation.

Benefits:

- Student Chosen Project Based Learning
- Community Mentorship
- Quality of Life
- Childhood Development
- Arts and Life Skills





Sample Projects:

- During lunch break and after school, students at Lynn Middle School are learning **bicycle repair** through the HAZLO Program--and they're doing it by fixing their classmates' bikes.
- In the **audio recording** studio, a middle-school musician and songwriter is learning how to record and publish her own albums.
- In a partnership with the Kids Can program, **young entrepreneurs** learned how to make and sell their own products.
- With mentors and tools at Cruces Creatives, students from Las Montanas Charter High School are learning **woodworking**, and **textiles** to make making wooden furniture, blankets, and pillows for a meditation room at their high school.





SEEDING REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE PROJECT

The Seeding Regenerative Agriculture Project helps farmers and ranchers implement economically and environmentally beneficial agricultural practices through peer-to-peer knowledge sharing and through technologies developed at the makerspace.

Benefits:

- Education
- Environmental Protection
- Economic Development
- Community Engagement
- Cross-Sector Collaboration





Highlights

- Over 87% of the participating farmers and ranchers reported implementing **new sustainable techniques** as a result of their participation in the 6-month pilot project.
- Through 13 field days where farmers and ranchers worked on each other's lands to complete projects, participants created rock dams to **stop erosion** in high pastures, built special **composting systems** to cultivate beneficial soil **microbes**, practiced land contouring for passive rainwater harvesting, designed and installed **drip irrigation systems**, and more.
- In response to farmers' requests for an affordable grain cleaning system for amaranth (an extremely **drought-tolerant**, native crop whose grains are too small to be processed by affordable systems currently on the market), Cruces Creatives substantially improved on open-source designs and **created a small-grain seed cleaner** that is portable, affordable, and able to work at a commercial scale. The system is currently being field-tested by participants in the Seeding Regenerative Agriculture Project.





CHARITABLE CRAFTING

In the Charitable Crafting Project, textile artists meet twice monthly to create projects that improve the community. In addition to the direct benefits delivered by projects, the program facilitates peer-to-peer learning among participants.

Benefits:

- Education
- Quality of Life
- Charity
- Art and Life Skills
- Community Engagement





Highlights:

- In winter 2018, the Charitable Crafters made over **60 gift bags and dolls** or stuffed animals for children at the Jardin de Los Ninos shelter.
- For spring 2019, the group made and donated several vehicle-loads of **pet beds to local animal shelters**, helping the animals be more comfortable and, by making the animals happier, potentially improving adoption rates.
- In summer 2019, the charitable crafters made **handbags and reusable sanitary supplies for asylum seekers** in Las Cruces.
- When **back-to-school clothing** supplies at the **Gospel Rescue Mission** were damaged by fire, the Charitable Crafters made and donated dozens of outfits for children needing clothes for the school year.





JOB SHOP

The Cruces Creatives Job Shop offers custom design, prototyping, and artisanal manufacturing work, drawing on the tools and expertise available at the makerspace. We specialize in making custom objects and unique one-offs, as well as doing small-run manufacturing.

Benefits:

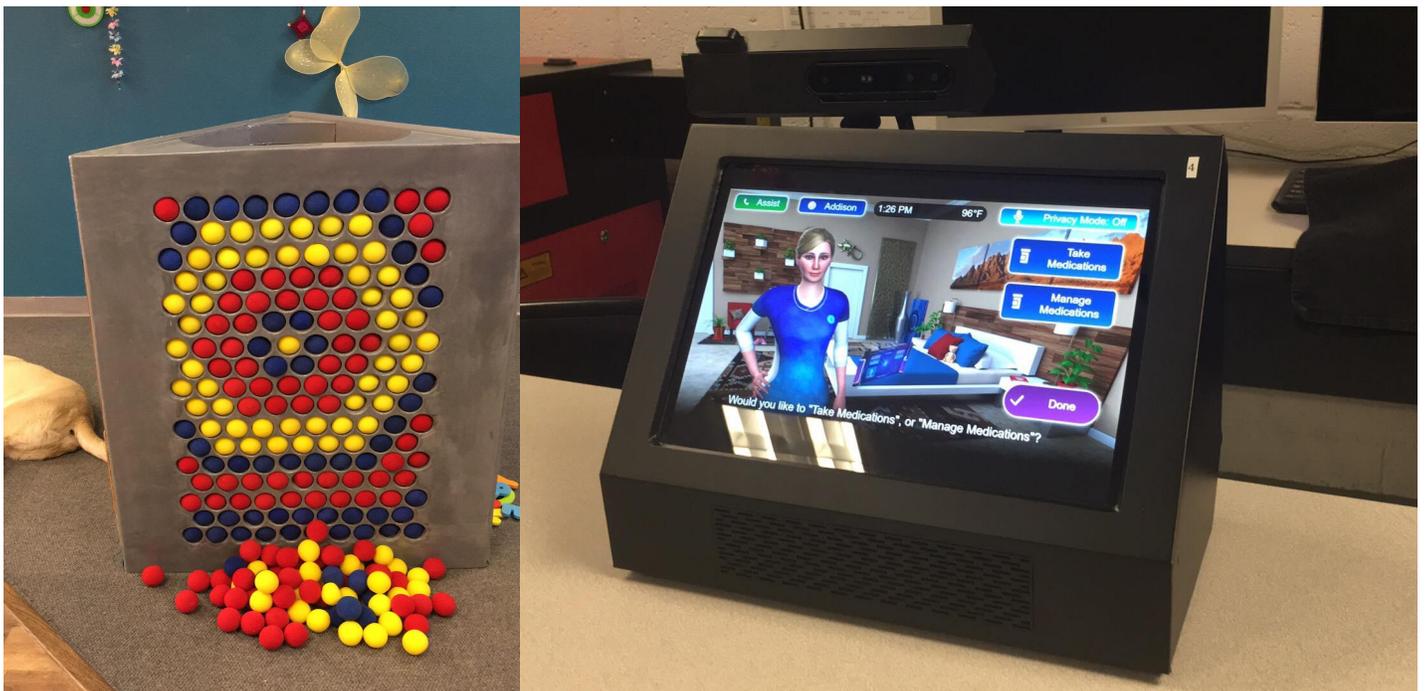
- Education
- Economic Development
- Arts
- Technology Development
- Trade Skill Development





Sample Projects:

- For **Electronic Caregiver**, the Cruces Creatives Job Shop successfully designed and manufactured **20 encasement units for Addison Care™, a virtual nursing assistant**. Using computer-aided design, laser cutting, CNC machines, 3D printing, vinyl cutting, and more, a team of four Job Shop artisans delivered the encasement units on spec, and on budget. The resulting project was premiered at the **2019 Consumer Electronics Show**.
- As a pilot project for the **Las Cruces Children's Museum**, the Job Shop successfully designed and built **three interactive, educational, and portable exhibits**. The results were premiered to very happy kids in March 2019.





MAYFIELD YOUNG ADULT LEARNERS

The Mayfield Young Adult Learners Program helps young adults with developmental disabilities exercise creativity and develop life skills. The program has focused on textile skills, including how to repair clothing and how to make pillows, blankets, and stuffed animals. Previous work included photography and the visual arts.

Benefits:

- Special Education
- Quality of Life
- Arts
- Trade and Life Skills





HUB COMMUNITY BIKE SHOP

In partnership with Velo Cruces, Cruces Creatives hosts free and low-cost workshops on bicycle repair, maintenance, and safety each Thursday and Saturday morning. The program especially serves children, veterans, and people who are homeless, and participants both learn marketable repair skills and can keep a bicycle they repair.

Benefits:

- Economic Development
- Charity
- Community Engagement
- Trade and Life Skills Education





PERFORMANCES AND PRESENTATIONS

The Cruces Creatives multi-purpose room hosts songwriters, scientists, comedians, and artists--often for combined performances and presentations that not only share remarkable work, but also teach attendees how the work's done.

Benefits:

- Fine and Performing Arts
- Education and Professional Development
- Quality of Life
- Community Engagement





Sample Projects :

Performances

In a combined performance and songwriting workshop, International Folk Music Awards Artist of the Year *Ordinary Elephant* shared their songs and songwriting knowledge with the Las Cruces songwriting community.

Scientific Lectures and Demonstrations

Retired NASA engineer and theoretical physicist Steven Zins presented the outline of an experiment to test a unified field theory.

Photography

Twice a month, the Dona Ana Photography Club showcases example photographs and leads meetings and workshops on the art and craft of photography.





FIRST FRIDAY ART & MUSIC SHOWS

On the first Friday of each month, Cruces Creatives hosts a new art gallery opening as part of the First Friday Art Ramble in Downtown Las Cruces. Showcased styles range from the traditional to the avant-garde. At the All-Original Open Mic, songwriters, poets, storytellers, and comics share their creations at the only open mic in Las Cruces to showcase entirely original material.

Benefits:

- Art
- Quality of Life
- Community Engagement
- Economic Development





MURAL AT BRANIGAN LIBRARY

With grant funding from Rumphius Foundation and in partnership with the MESA Project, Cruces Creatives organized the creation of a participatory, paint-by-number mural at Branigan Library, painted with the involvement of over 300 community members of all ages.

Benefits:

- Art
- Quality of Life
- Community Engagement
- Community Beautification





AWARDS



Newcomer Award 2019

For Contributions to the Arts by a
New Organization

Favorite Arts Center 2019





2019 Budget

Income:

Direct Public Support		43,302.49
Program Income		54,561.48
Classes and Workshops	3,678.00	
Member Dues	25,905.00	
LCPS Mayfield Young Adult Learners	3,500	
NMSU Prep Academy	780.00	
STEM Program	20,348.48	
Origami Field Trip	350.00	
Grant Income		36,740.00
Job Shop Contracts		69,329.00
Sales Income		1,111.80
Dividends and Interest		41.21
		<hr/>
		205,085.98

Expenses:

Rent		54,400
Programs		53,199.38
Administration		1,295.00
Cost of Goods Sold		1,484.44
Awards and Grants		34,873.64
Job Shop		39,457.80
Utilities		11,513.70
Insurance		1,133.03
Business Expenses		4,937.69
Repairs and Maintenance		399.73
Other Facility Expenses		1,418.90
Payroll Expenses		1,259.11
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		205,372.42