



## **Maker Advocate**

### **Senior Administrative Assistant (Grade V)**

#### **Fixed Term Two Year Contract**

#### **Background and Role:**

The MADE (Maker Advocacy in Dublin for Everyone) project is an ambitious two year project funded by Science Foundation Ireland which seeks to knit together a currently fragmented regional maker scene in Dublin through the introduction of a series of initiatives coordinated by a Maker Advocate – a new role that we recruit for here. The set of high profile initiatives including festivals, public maker space roll out, mobile maker spaces, corporate engagement, training for all and dissemination.

Interest in maker culture permeates all levels of society from grassroots, community activities through commercial sectors, not-for-profits and to top-down government initiatives. In Dublin alone, examples of the former include Men's Sheds, Dublin Maker, local hackerspaces and coder dojos while the examples of the latter include urban library refurbishment, academic qualifications in local universities and Dublin City council support.

There is a need we believe, to build better, broader, more permanent bridges between these many and varied islands of activities. While Dublin Maker, the annual maker movement showcase has linked many such initiatives it takes place only once a year. Local libraries and community groups have great intentions in this area but often lack access to networks of expertise and experience which would allow them to take next steps effectively and with confidence. Companies large and small have no contact point to access, support and tap into this valuable (both socially and from a human capital perspective) culture. The general public are offered only fleeting glimpses of maker thinking and doing, through sporadic media clustered around specific events. Finally, many from marginalized groups in society such as those from economically disadvantaged communities, older people and people with disabilities, have no access or even awareness of maker culture and its relevance to their lives.

We wish to address these issues with a set of concrete, coordinated, exemplar actions over the two-year time frame of this project focused on the STEM-underserved region of Dublin and its neighboring counties.

We are seeking to hire a full time Maker Advocate who will address the above issues through (and with the support of the team behind Dublin Maker) planning, coordinating and executing a number of high impact actions proposed as follows:

**As inspiration:** Showcases of the maker movement such as in the form of the Dublin Maker Festival to be held in Merrion Square Park in Dublin City on Saturday 20th July 2019 and 18th July 2020, Science Hackday, support for Science week, Engineer's week, Maker week and pop-up meet ups and hack-nights across the city in 2019 and 2020.

**As public access:** Advise and contribute to creation of two new maker spaces in Dublin City Libraries and in other locations through engagement with relevant community groups. This may also include contribution to a Mobile Maker Space via Dublin City Public Libraries.

**As training:** Provision of training events to primary school teachers in training, primary and

secondary schools, company visits. Training for public library staff.

**As accessible to all:** Developing further targeted engagement with communities not commonly represented in the Irish maker community through key partnerships with groups representing socially disadvantaged groups. Our targets in 2019 and 2020 include older people and the differently abled as well as our current partners in the National Youth Council of Ireland and TechSpace.

**As dissemination:** Contributing to story-telling this project including engagement in podcasts and documentary development and other means.

**As aspiration:** Fund raising throughout the two year period to provide a springboard for self-funded efforts from 2021 onwards.

**Responsibilities:**

Reporting to the MADE project team the Maker Advocate will take responsibility to :

- Develop and deliver on the MADE project targets above
- Engage communities in maker culture
- Work collaboratively with key stakeholders to support, facilitate, and integrate STEM related Maker projects
- Develop, build, and define new public maker spaces through engagement with partner groups, e.g. Dublin City Public Libraries
- Coordinate and interact with event production companies and the Dublin Maker administrative team to ensure an increasingly impactful Dublin Maker event
- Fund raise
- Report on outcomes for funders and partners
- Be a focal voice and leader of maker culture in the greater Dublin region and beyond, communicating with relevant communities and catalyzing new activities

This role is a first, and an extraordinary opportunity for a creative and committed individual to lead the integration of maker activities in the city and contribute to making Dublin an energetic, participative place to be involved in maker culture.

**Skills:**

- Experience with a range of rapid prototyping technologies such as 3d printers, laser cutting, 3d modelling software, hobbyist electronics
- Excellent communication abilities in written and oral forms
- Leadership

**Minimum Criteria:**

The ideal candidate will have a demonstrable track record in hacker culture, event management, community engagement and some experience of funding raising. The candidate will have an honors degree plus a minimum of 3 years relevant experience.

**Additional Information:**

*Salary Scale: €47,386 per annum.*

The position is located at Dublin City University Glasnevin campus.

**Closing Date: 21st January 2019**

**Informal Enquiries:**

Informal enquiries may be addressed to Professor Tomas Ward at [tomas@dublinmaker.ie](mailto:tomas@dublinmaker.ie) or +353-1-700-6076 Insight Centre for Data Analytics, School of Computing, Faculty of Engineering and Computing, Dublin City University, Glasnevin, Dublin 9, Ireland.

*Please do not send applications to this email address, instead apply as described below.*

**Application procedure:**

Application forms are available from the DCU Current Vacancies (Open Competitions) website at <http://www4.dcu.ie/hr/vacancies/current.shtml> and also from the Human Resources Department, Dublin City University, Dublin 9. Tel: +353 (0)1 700 5149; Fax +353 (0)1 700 5500 Email: [hr.applications@dcu.ie](mailto:hr.applications@dcu.ie).

**Please clearly state the role that you are applying for in your application and email subject line: Job Reference #1068 Maker Advocate – School of Computing**

Applications should be submitted by e-mail to [hr.applications@dcu.ie](mailto:hr.applications@dcu.ie) or by Fax: +353 (0)1 700 5500 or by post to the Human Resources Department, Dublin City University, DCU Glasnevin Campus, Dublin 9, D09W6Y4.

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