



Audience: Adult, Teen
Popular Topics: DIY, Crafting

Budget: \$0-\$100 depending on project

Background: No DIY programs for adults were offered at the East Brunswick Public Library, and patrons showed a large interest—they wanted to have fun too! Crafternoon for teens already existed, so our evening program became Crafter Dark.

You do NOT have to have serious DIY or crafting skills to oversee a program! You can use videos, and encourage other crafty staff and patrons to help with planning and projects. I call myself an Accidental Crafter.

Project Ideas: Not everything has to be expensive or require specialized equipment.

Free / Low Cost

- Book Folding Art, paper roses, etc. (discards!)
- Hydroponic indoor herb plants (recycled yogurt containers and jars)
- Luminaries (recycled wine bottles, tissue paper, Modge Podge, markers)
- Perler bead 3D Projects (tissue box cover, etc.)
- Macrame (taught by staff with use of Creativebug database)
- Light Painting Photography (if access to iPad or tablets with cameras)

Mid-Range

- Cross-stitch, knitting, crocheting (people will donate yarn—some crafters hoard!)
- LED greeting cards
- Green screen postcards (if access to iPad or tablets with cameras and a color printer)

Indulgence

- Mosaics
- Sewing (if access to machines)
- Soaps / Candles / DIY Spa Items
- Jewelry (wire wrapped, UV resin, beads, etc.)

Challenges

- Common Supplies (colleagues don't always replenish)
- Storage (programming breeds stuff!)
- Clean-up (e.g. pour painting required wrapping the room in plastic!)

Advice / Lessons Learned

- **No Makerspace Needed**—Just have some items to make it easier for you to work in different spaces:
 - [Heat resistant / easy to clean silicone mats for working on plastic tables](#)
 - [Crafting trays with lips for easy clean / easy transfer](#)
 - [Induction Burner \(portable heat source, but no patrons with pacemakers can participate\)](#)
- **Multi-Gender Friendly**—zero-waste products, utilitarian sewing projects, mini electronics projects.
- **Beware Pinterest.** Look for ideas, but do not learn from it—search for detailed video tutorials (e.g. crayon color-blocked candle Pinterest project does not burn!)
- **Ask for Help.** Colleagues and patrons have hobbies—you don't have to teach everything.

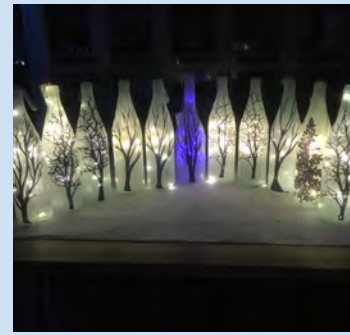
Other Media: Tutorial Playlist on YouTube: <https://tinyurl.com/librarianmelissa>



Book Roses



Book Folding



Wine Bottle Luminaries



Fabric Block Printing



Origami Market Bags



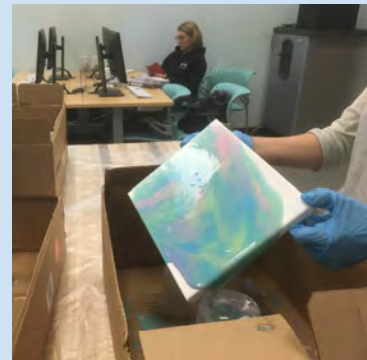
Beach Mosaic



UV Resin Constellation Pendant



Fascinator



Pour Painting



LED Greeting Card



Beach Jelly Candle



Arm Knitting