

# PLIX



## Community Call

September 24, 2020

### Attendees

1. Lydia Guterman, Library Outreach Coordinator @ PLIX, [lguterma@media.mit.edu](mailto:lguterma@media.mit.edu) 🌈
  2. Michelle Hlubinka, PLIX Team 🌈 [binka@media.mit.edu](mailto:binka@media.mit.edu)
  3. Katherine McConachie, PLIX Team, [kamcco@media.mit.edu](mailto:kamcco@media.mit.edu) 🍌
  4. Avery Normandin, PLIX Team, [ave@media.mit.edu](mailto:ave@media.mit.edu) 🐘
  5. Cara Tarmey, PLIX Team, [caratarmey@gmail.com](mailto:caratarmey@gmail.com) 🔍
  6. Rebecca Ransberger, Toledo Lucas County Public Library 🐰 [rebecca.ransberger@toledolibrary.org](mailto:rebecca.ransberger@toledolibrary.org)
  7. Tienya Smith 🧐, Queens Public Library, [tsmith@queenslibrary.org](mailto:tsmith@queenslibrary.org)
  8. Pam Brockway, Public Library of Youngstown and Mahoning County [pbrockway@libraryvisit.org](mailto:pbrockway@libraryvisit.org)
  9. Claudia Haines 🌟, Homer Public Library [nevershushed@gmail.com](mailto:nevershushed@gmail.com)
  10. Ruth Isserman, NYPL 🌿 [ruthisserman@nypl.org](mailto:ruthisserman@nypl.org)
  11. Zachary Margolis, New York Public Library 🦄 [zacharymargolis@nypl.org](mailto:zacharymargolis@nypl.org)
  12. Dave Fink , 🤘 Michigan City Public Library [finkdbass@gmail.com](mailto:finkdbass@gmail.com)
  13. Romie Zelaya, New York Public Library [romiezelaya@nypl.org](mailto:romiezelaya@nypl.org) 🧐
  14. Ann Cox, Children's Librarian @ Cincinnati Public Library 🍌 [Ann.Cox@cincinnati.library.org](mailto:Ann.Cox@cincinnati.library.org)
  15. Jean Slavkovsky, Malden Public Library [jslavkovsky@maldenpubliclibrary.org](mailto:jslavkovsky@maldenpubliclibrary.org) 🗣️
  16. Pamela Van Halsema, Library consultant/grant project manager, [pamela@pvanhalsema.com](mailto:pamela@pvanhalsema.com) [makersinthelibrary.org](http://makersinthelibrary.org) 🧐
  17. Brian Oertel, Johnson County Library MakerSpace, [oertelb@jocolibrary.org](mailto:oertelb@jocolibrary.org), 🤖
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# Agenda

## Welcome & Introductions (15 min)

- Add [an emoji](#) to your Zoom name! 📎
  - You can do this by hovering over the three dots in the upper right of your zoom image.
- Add any agenda items you have to the Community Updates section!
- Meet our new PLIX Team members: Cara & Michelle
- Intro to Community Calls

## Community Updates (15 min)

- *Add your update below! It could be an exciting resource you found, programming successes (or failures!) you've had, PLIX activity you're working on, upcoming events at your library that you're excited about, etc.*
- **From Lydia:** new PLIX [website](#) & [discussion forum](#)
- **From Avery:** new PLIX learning activities & facilitator resources
  - [Space Food zine](#)
  - [Urban Ecology Email Mini-Course](#)
- **From Katherine:** PLIX got an [IMLS grant!](#)
- **From Claudia:** My coauthors and I just published a paper on computational thinking and early learning with families in the library in *Public Libraries*. The PLA Family Engagement Task Force now has a page about CT and early learning in libraries: <http://www.ala.org/pla/initiatives/familyengagement/comphinking>
- **From Pam Van Halsema:** Days away from publishing toolkit for under-resourced libraries to create makerspaces! [Makersinthelibrary.org](#) (there is also a FB group!)
- **From Dave:** Been doing lots of video editing and animating for virtual storytimes! Also experimenting with doing a Tinkercad workshop.
- **From Brian:** Running “make with micro:bit” programs -- sending micro:bit gos out into the community, then hosting Zoom sessions where kids share out what they've made

## Open Discussion (25 min)

- *Add your discussion questions here!*
- **From Lydia:** What have you enjoyed about other community calls you've been in? (Have you been in a community call before?) How can we use this time to benefit one another?
- **From Avery 🐼:** We've seen lots of conversations (including in the forum) about take-and-makes as a good way of trying out programming. What has your experience been with take-and-makes in your library? What are you looking for when you create one? +1 Zach @nypl
  - **Tienya:** Future Humans; summer-long creation process with various prompts; chances for check-ins with other kids participating (zoom call + rocket chat) <https://giphy.com/futurehumans> - creating four future technology (wearables) for life on four planets

- **Jean:** Put together 30 kits for urban ecology for kids in Malden, MA! Created a series of YouTube videos to help with remote facilitation process. Having multiple options for engaging in learning is great for make and takes! Jean's writeup can be found [here](#).
- **Zach:** Interested in ways for kids to hang out digitally! Also asynchronous platforms for sharing out in the the making process
  - **Claudia:** surprised by how comfortable teens in her programs have felt!
- **Dave:** Tinkering with flip-grid for sharing out! More info: [here](#)
- **Zach:** What combination of materials feels like a good balance between technical enough to promote open-ended work, but is not so messy that it's overwhelming? Consumable vs. non-consumable? Loans of more expensive gear? What kinds of materials are being sent home?
  - **Tienya:** Nothing was assumed! Patrons provided with all supplies, including a microcontroller (Arduino).
  - **Claudia:** And who was the audience? Do you feel like you engaged kids who were already familiar with the tools and ideas? Do you think it was easy for kids new to the concepts/materials to jump in?
- From Michelle 🌈: We're running a bigger introduction to creative learning facilitation workshop in November! What are you looking for in an online workshop space? What are models that you'd like us to learn from for having an online workshop like this?
  - **Zach:** Trying to recreate with the same shared slidedeck; recreating the sticky note+easel pad vibe!
  - **Claudia:** Using [Google Jamboard](#) for co-designing, problem-solving, and adding sticky notes.
  - **Jean:** Build in 15-minute breaks between sessions (never more than an hour of content/meeting in a row).
  - **Zach:** How and where should we recreate the student experience? How can we engage in creative learning online? Can we invite participants to make-along with members of the PLIX team? Also a brain break : )
  - **Pamela** is experimenting with Unhangout : )
- From Tienya: Are you having any issues with staff Zoom burnout?
- Zach: would love to hear more from folks who've done it how live make-along style programs have gone -- thinking about reach/engagement in finding patrons, practice, content/materials, we're beginning work on some staff guidelines
- Zach: we're thinking a lot about teens and the loss of hang-outy spaces with branch closures, and how (and if) a digital version of that is possible.

### Wrap-up, upcoming events (5 min)