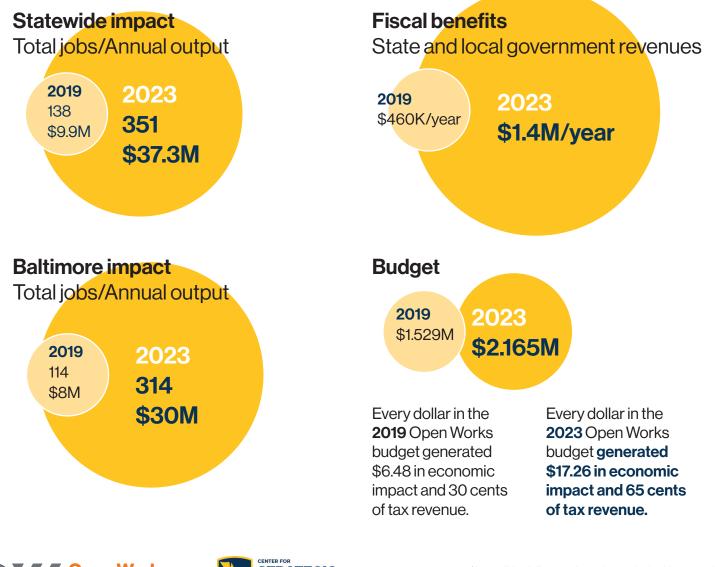
Making the Future The Economic Impact of Open Works Baltimore

In 2016, Open Works and Coppin State University signed an agreement that became the first partnership between a community-embedded makerspace and an HBCU in the nation. Three years later, the Coppin State University Center for Strategic Entrepreneurship (CSE) published *Turning Makerspaces into Greater Places*, the first comprehensive economic impact analysis of a makerspace in the literature. In 2020, CSE published *A Makerspace's Response to the Covid-19 Pandemic*, a case study of Open Works' face shield manufacturing efforts. The third study in this trilogy is *Making the Future*, a followup study to examine Open Works' economic impact as of 2023.

The results are stunning. From 2019 to 2023, Open Works' overall statewide economic impact grew nearly 4X, creating 213 jobs in the process. To put this in context, investing in makerspaces generates a 3.6X higher return on investment than the Baltimore Orioles, who have received \$712M in state subsidy since 1992¹ while generating just \$600M in tax revenue². While large, topdown public projects are popular, they do little to stimulate durable, grassroots economic growth. Makerspaces are a key tool for boosting economic growth, startup dynamism, and equality of opportunity for all Marylanders.







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¹ https://thedailyrecord.com/2023/10/13/the-state-ismaking-a-bad-stadium-deal/

² https://mgaleg.maryland.gov/cmte_testimony/2022/ app/1vKF0_iJ4xdSFa-D6tX6UifcllZ9NleF3.pdf