

Mad Lab, Genoa - <https://www.facebook.com/madlabgenova/>



“My basic idea is that programming is the most powerful medium of developing the sophisticated and rigorous thinking needed for mathematics, for grammar, for physics, for statistics, for all the ‘hard’ subjects.... In short, I believe more than ever that programming should be a key part of the intellectual development of people growing up” - Seymour Papert

MadLab Genoa is a grass-roots, community based Fabrication Laboratory (Fab Lab) based in the historic centre of Genoa (IlLaboratorio) which delivers a range of social and educational activities for children and young people to popularise science and the educational use of technology.

The project is implemented by the Cooperative Laboratory in collaboration with the School of Robotics and Association Science Festival with the support of the Municipality of Genoa as part of initiatives for the development of the Covenant for the Magdalene and the Compagnia di San Paolo.

MadLab Genoa is located at the heart of quite a disadvantaged neighbourhood in Genoa - in the District of Magdalena - and the partners are trying to use the facility to support more young people into business in the area.

The main aim is to teach young people about programming and 3D printing.

MadLab has a small retail workshop equipped with a series of computerized instruments able to realize a wide range of 3D objects. The MadLab workshop is equipped scanners, 3D printers and other technological tools and offers personalized services for digital fabrication to creative, teachers, students and curious. As it says itself, “MadLab provides young people with a place to get close to the new technologies and to become part of the makers of the world!”

Like many similar facilities in the Fab Lab movement, MadLab follows the traditional model of Fab Labs, of being an open source, community based facility, which is primarily dedicated to the advancement and education of young people in technical skills.