





Businesses Launched from Generator

The following individuals joined Generator with entrepreneurial desire and vision but little knowledge of the available equipment and how to make their ideas a reality. After receiving training at Generator, they started successful businesses manufacturing their products. The following are a few of Generator’s success stories. You can visit us online to read more about our Generator graduates here: <https://generatorvt.com/category/news/>

<p>1. Generator generatorvt.com Generator, Burlington’s maker space -- a combination of artist studios, classroom, and business incubator at the intersection of art, science and technology -- was incorporated in October, 2013 and opened its doors in the spring of 2014. Since then, we have steadily grown by leaps and bounds, serve over 350 members annually, produced hundreds of community events, most free to the public, have partnered widely with educational, nonprofit, and corporate entities around town, served as a model to other nascent maker spaces statewide, grown our educational offerings, and have added and trained staff. --4 new Jobs</p>	
<p>2. Pinbox 3000, Pete Talbot and Ben t. Matchstick pinbox3000.com Pete Talbot and Ben t. Matchstick (aka the Cardboard Teck Instantute) were in the Maker-In-Residence program in 2015. The Pinbox 3000 cardboard tabletop pinball machine prototypes were made possible through the use of the laser cutter at the Generator. After winning 1st prize in 2015 President’s (Obama) Maker Faire they have now manufactured and sold over 10,000 die-cut PinBox 3000 kits and raised over \$120,000 through crowdfunding campaigns in order to push the Pinbox 3000 to market. They are now team members of the fabrication space, Alternator, at 388 Pine. Their product continues to sell in retail stores, educational catalogs, online, and with international distribution in Japan, Australia, and Canada. EU manufacturing is set to begin soon! --3 new jobs</p>	
<p>3. Alice & the Magician, Aaron and Sam Wisniewski aliceandthemagician.com</p> <p>ALICE & The MAGICIAN</p>  <p>Aaron and Sam became studio members at Generator to use the laser cutter to create displays for their “cocktail aromatics,” collaborate with the talented hive mind, and build their network. Generator helped them develop a business plan and become a finalist for the December 2014 ‘Pitch it Fab it’ contest sponsored by UVM involving the University’s Instrumentation and Modelling Facility, which helped get their business off the ground.</p> <p>Over the last three years, their company has consistently grown as a full service “Flavor & Fragrance Company.” Their “cocktail aromatics” are distributed all over the country and internationally. They have recently developed a second line of products called “flavor elixirs” and are consistently hired to perform their unique alchemy at high end events all over New England. Alice & the Magician, along with M/E Design, has secured funding in excess of a million dollars to develop a prototype to introduce scent to Virtual Reality experiences. Over the next year they will be refining the technology and exploring its application in everything from entertainment to education and more.</p> <p>--4 new jobs</p>	<p>ALICE & The MAGICIAN</p> 

4. M//E Designs, Matt Flego & Erik Cooper | mattanderikdesign.com



Matt Flego was the first volunteer and studio member and was instrumental in helping build out the space and establish the community culture. Generator created a fertile environment for networking as well as access to prototyping tools and equipment. They were able to build a client base by providing design, prototyping services and custom fabrication to local designers and inventors. Now their line of furniture, Queen City Furniture, is sold throughout Vermont and NYC and is available through the national retailer Room & Board. They started a local co-working and fabrication space called Alternator, which offers Generator graduates access to small scale manufacturing.
--3 new jobs



5. River Slate Co., Connie Lisle | riverslateco.com

Connie received a 4 month membership as a retirement gift from her colleagues at a local high school. She used this opportunity to learn to use the laser cutter and soon begin laser etching her son's bird illustrations onto green slate. Over the next two years, Connie was able to explore product development at Generator to see if this business would be marketable and sustainable. Eventually she needed to buy her own laser cutter in order to meet the increasing demand for her work. Her slate coasters, cheese plates and trivets are carried by a wide variety of retailers in Vermont, in addition to creating custom designs for corporate logos and wedding gifts. You can find Connie's products at: Stowe Mountain Resort, Trapp Family Lodge, Mad River Glen, Green Mountain Coffee Roasters, Von Trapp Brewery, Mount Snow Ski, Cabot Cheese and Bridgeside Home in Waterbury.
--1 new job



6. ABD Designs, Alix Klein | alixandrabarron.com

Alix Klein was one of the first volunteer members as well as elected as a community ember to the Board. She started using the laser cutter to produce her jewelry designs using recycled bicycle inner tubes. She now has 44 wholesale accounts across the country and is manufacturing her jewelry locally so that she can devote more time to building wholesale accounts and creating new design lines. ABD Designs is reaching national recognition with features in Forbes.com and Bicyclingmag.com
--2 new jobs



7. Upstream Ag | upstreamag.com

Upstream is engaged in the design and production of next generator machinery – tools, apps, and tutorials for the small farm. Rob Rock, owner of Pitchfork Farms in the Intervale, has been coming to Generator over the winter months since our beginning. Rob uses Generator tools to design and build ingenious custom farm equipment for the small scale, high value added organic farmer – initially to support his own business and then, after coming to Generator, to support other small farms in Vermont. Meet the maker: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hgJ-NPLANA8><http://bit.ly/upstream-ag>
--1 new job



8. QOR 360 | qor360.com

Dr. Turner, back surgeon at UVM and founder of QOR 360, first came to Generator three years ago looking for help making prototypes for an idea he had for a new ergonomic chair. Dr. Turner teamed up with several of our experienced members who transferred the concept into multiple working prototypes and provided production/fulfilment services. The business has relocated to a warehouse on Pine Street and offers revolutionary ergonomic chairs for better back health.

--2 new jobs



QOR360