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By Lori Timmons

The KWI Fab Lab Team

As you might expect, it takes a wide variety of skills to bring together a project such as KWI Fab Lab Tulsa. In this article, we will get to know the members of the KWI Fab Lab Tulsa Team.

Trinna Burrows is the Executive Director of Kendall Whittier, Inc., and a Licensed Clinical Social Worker. The Fab Lab will make innovation, invention, and business development possible for those who might not otherwise have access to these technologies, machines, and education. Burrows recently commented, “This is the kind of project that will change lives.” One of the biggest joys for Burrows is working with the volunteer team of professionals who comprise the Fab Lab Planning and Development Team. She is inspired by their passion, intellect, commitment, and long hours spent moving this project forward.

Micah Kordsmeier is Project Coordinator of a career training program at Tulsa’s Community Action Project, a comprehensive anti-poverty agency. Kordsmeier graduated from the University of Tulsa with majors in Economics and Political Science. He has a long standing interest in creativity, entrepreneurship, community development, and the concepts of equity and opportunity. “Fab Lab can empower the economically and socially disadvantaged, but it’s also an empowering tool for every segment of the community including business owners and entrepreneurs,” said Kordsmeier.

Dan Moran holds BS and MS degrees in Mechanical Engineering. He is a native Tulsan with ties to the Kendall-Whittier Neighborhood that go back three generations. Moran sees Fab Lab as a valuable resource for residents and as a destination for those living outside the neighborhood. He has been motivated to volunteer with KWI and the Fab Lab Team because he believes a local lab has universal benefits and opportunities to offer Tulsans regardless of their location or background.

Josh Moseby is a local Mechanical Engineer who has great interest in community development. When he learned about the Fab Lab vision to give the general public opportunities to bring their ideas to life along with providing a means for bettering the community through technology, he was captivated by the possibilities. Moseby contributes time and energy to this endeavor because he knows it will do wonderful things for the community.

As a husband and wife team working on the Fab Lab Tulsa project, Matt and Diamo Norris have an opportunity to work with one another as professional colleagues. **Diamo Norris** holds degrees in English, Political Science, and Library Studies, and currently works as a grant writer for Tulsa’s Community Action Project. Her desire to realize positive changes in the lives of Tulsans has brought her to Fab Lab. The Fab Lab will be open to the public as a resource for direct interaction with technology, and will draw people toward one another into a community of learning and sharing. Norris also serves as a board member for Kendall Whittier, Inc. **Matt Norris** holds two degrees in Mechanical Engineering and is a licensed professional engineer

currently working for Spirit AeroSystems. He is part of Fab Lab because of the technology and its potential social power for good. In his own words, “Entrepreneurship is the engine of society and has lifted countless families out of poverty.” Fab Lab enables entrepreneurship from all levels of society from children to the elderly, from citizen to immigrant, from rich to poor.

Anne Pollard, of Pollard & Associates Realtors, is a native Tulsan focusing on the unique urban neighborhoods that surround downtown and works to protect and enhance Tulsa's architectural heritage. “Within my first conversation with Dan Moran and Trinna Burrows, I was hooked,” says Pollard about her introduction to Fab Lab. Access to this kind of technology and support can be life changing for an entire community. The neighborhood and the clients that use Fab Lab can create entirely new revenue sources, new business and true economic development. Pollard comments, “I give my time because it is worth it.”

Bob Strattan, Ph.D.,P.E. is a retired University of Tulsa engineering professor and an officer of the Tulsa Engineering Foundation. He volunteered to help coordinate support from the Tulsa engineering community for the Fab Lab Tulsa Planning and Development Team when he heard the Fab Lab story and what an asset it could be for the community. This series of monthly articles in the *Tulsa Engineer* is one of the results. Another of his duties is the Team's liaison with Advisors to the project.

Lori Timmons is the KWI Director of Development. The intercultural, intergenerational, and educational possibilities of Fab Lab are what are most appealing to her. “The Fab Lab will fit within the overall KWI structure, and complement existing programs which include the Youth Mentoring Program, Emergency Food Pantry, and Partners in Education,” said Timmons.