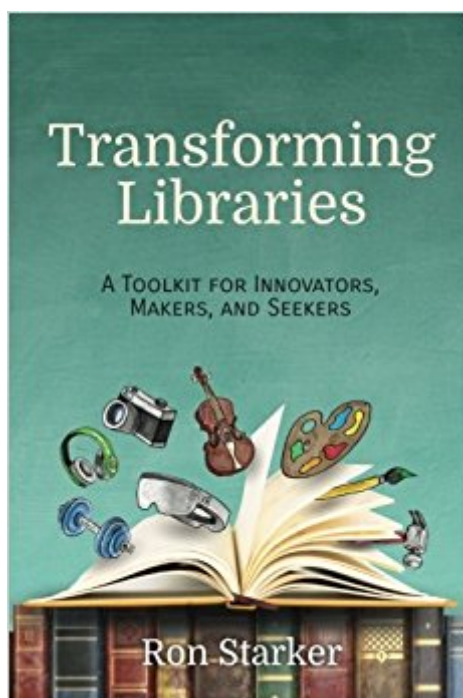


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# Transforming Libraries: A Toolkit For Innovators, Makers, And Seekers



## Synopsis

“Why do we need libraries when we have Google?” Today’s libraries are in jeopardy. And yes, perhaps if libraries were only book warehouses, we wouldn’t need them. But libraries can be so much more than a place to check out books. In the Digital Age, it’s more important than ever for libraries to evolve into gathering points for collaboration, spaces for innovation, and places where authentic learning occurs. Transforming Libraries proposes a new role for librarians and for libraries—one that offers patrons places to think, to explore, to create, and problem-solve together. Rather than the quiet dusty hall of decades past, Ron Starker reveals ways to make libraries makerspaces, innovation centers, community commons, and learning design studios that engage multiple forms of intelligence. Packed with almost 500 tools and resources, Transforming Libraries offers real-life examples of how to turn libraries into intelligently designed centers that are essential for today’s schools. “Transforming Libraries offers a revolutionary approach for libraries of the future. This is a crucial and timely book.” —Ying Compestine, author of *Revolution is Not a Dinner Party* “I have had the good fortune of watching Ron Starker in action at the Singapore American School, and his library is electric! His book is a must-read.” —Chris Crutcher, author of *The Crazy Horse Electric Game* “As the role of the library is starting to be questioned in an ever-evolving world, Ron Starker’s Transforming Libraries provides an effective blueprint for the library space revolution that is coming our way. A must-read!” —Sean Thomas, anchor/correspondent for International News Channel RT

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## Customer Reviews

"Transforming Libraries offers a revolutionary approach for libraries of the future. This is a crucial and timely book." --Ying Compestine, author of *Revolution is Not a Dinner Party* "I have had the good fortune of watching Ron Starker in action at the Singapore American School, and his library is electric! His book is a must-read." --Chris Crutcher, author of *The Crazy Horse Electric Game* "As the role of the library is starting to be questioned in an ever-evolving world, Ron Starker's *Transforming Libraries* provides an effective blueprint for the library space revolution that is coming our way. A must-read!" --Sean Thomas, anchor/correspondent for International News Channel RT

This long awaited book from a champion of innovative libraries brings together the ideas, learnings and wisdom from more than 20 years of reinventing modern libraries. More than a theoretical guide, Ron Starker provides real life anecdotal evidence of not only where libraries have come from, but more importantly, a roadmap for where libraries should be heading if they are to remain relevant tomorrow. Essential reading for both new and experienced librarians, and anyone interested in understanding the importance of thoughtful and reflective innovations in our centers of collaboration, creativity and learning.

*Transforming Libraries* is a fascinating and stimulating read, presenting individuals with a unique insight into one of the most important issues facing our schools and education system today.

Starker makes the claim that libraries must transform in order to stay relevant. He argues that libraries must increase their scope beyond information storage facilities to become hubs of collaboration, research, experimentation and innovation. Starker's positive, forward-thinking and encouraging take offers up a vision where librarians are learning leaders on the forefront of educational change. This book is full of suggestions and possibilities for the changing roles of librarians and the amazing potential of libraries as a flexible and agile space that supports all types of learning. If you are looking to "reimagine, redesign and retool" your library to better serve the community of learners, this book is an excellent starting point.

This is an excellent and highly practical source. Starker brings years of experience to the task of writing up a sort of tool kit for librarians. This is highly recommended

Whichever library Ron Starker takes over, he does an amazing job transforming the place to meet the current and future needs. He shares his wealth of knowledge in this invaluable book for anyone interested in how to setup, maintain and run a great library!

Ron Starker has been doing the hard work of making middle school and high school libraries relevant for years, especially as changing technologies have challenged the idea of what a library should actually be (and do). His book is full of ideas that help us understand how libraries still serve students and faculties and aid us in imagining how libraries can continue to do so in the future.

Librarians, teachers, school administrators, tech coordinators and others will find this highly readable book to be a lasting resource for creating innovative learning spaces. Transforming Libraries outlines detailed plans on how to set up learning design studios for photography & videography, music recording, wellness, traditional maker spaces and more.

Excellent and informative outlook on how libraries are vital in the Information Age. Highly recommended.

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