

# creativeALBANY

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## Firing up local innovation and thinking

Welcome to a week of creative and innovative thinking in Albany. Welcome to The Week of Fathom!

Hosted by Creative Albany, The Week of Fathom features events to fire your imagination, kick-start your creativity, propel innovation and put you in the room with other people who think outside the box.

Project coordinator Leon Delpech says the week of activities in Albany is an interesting – and potentially challenging – way for people to be exposed to different ways of thinking.

“There’s great innovation in the Great Southern and we want to help those people connect and collaborate with each other and create more ideas,” says Leon.

The all-ages Week of Fathom kicks off with Shipwrecked: Parables of failing and floundering. It’s a night of talking about failure. Locals Jon Doust, Wiebke Ebeling and Ruben Wills won’t be sharing stories so you can laugh at them but instead, take heart in the fact that someone is talking out loud about failure. It’s a reminder that it’s ok to fail because it’s a natural part of life and we don’t speak up about it nearly enough.

At Albany Soup, your \$5 donation will go into a pot. You’ll hear four pitches for micro projects and the best one gets the money. It’s a brilliant way to help along a small idea which one day could become a big one.

For those who like to make things, check out the free screening of Maker. It’s a documentary on the Maker Movement in the US, a do-it-yourself and do-it-together culture fuelled by passion and powered by new tech. It subverts traditional manufacturing, using innovative concepts such as open source, local manufacturing, crowd funding and digital fabrication.

“Micro-manufacturing is something we can do here in our own backyard,” says Leon. “We don’t need to be in a big, industrial city nor do we need to send our ideas away. That kind of a change in thinking has already spawned some interesting businesses in the Great Southern and The Week of Fathom wants to encourage more of it.”

If you’re up for a challenge, sign up for GovHack and be part of this national hackathon which uses existing data to create new solutions over a weekend. Come alone and join a team or get a group of friends together.

“This week is about being creative and a little bit playful,” says Leon. “We hope it gets people thinking differently and opens minds to the infinite possibilities around innovation.

“Even if this all sounds a little bit beyond you, I challenge you to try something new. You never know what you might discover about yourself.”

The events have been inspired by the work being done in other communities around the world. It’s hoped that more events will be held around the Great Southern during the year.

For full event details, go to [events.fathomco.org](http://events.fathomco.org)

#### **The Week of Fathom event details:**

**Shipwrecked: Great Southern parables of failing and floundering:** Saturday, August 31 at the Vancouver Arts Centre from 6pm – 7.30pm. Entry is \$5 cash.

<https://www.bbc.com/worklife/article/20170312-yes-you-should-tell-everyone-about-your-failures>

**Maker: A documentary on the Maker Movement:** Sunday, September 1 at Albany Library from 5pm – 7pm. Free entry. Watch the trailer at

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mklywR7TQxs>

**Albany Soup:** Monday, September 2 at the Albany Business Centre from 5.30pm – 8pm. Entry is \$5 cash for soup dinner and \$5 cash for micro-granting. [detroitssoup.com](http://detroitssoup.com)

**GovHack:** September 6 – 8 at Albany Library. Free entry. Register at [govhack.org](http://govhack.org)

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