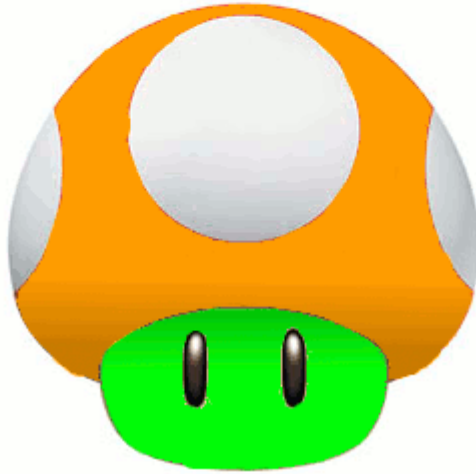


Chrono Underground Youth Center



Community Video Game Youth Center Plan

Muscatine, IA



Topics

costs

location

marketing

sustainability

monthly costs

staff/employees

insurance

layout

decoration

lightning

donors

city council opinion

educational use

free passes to students

television/movies

music

types of games

copyright

parental consent

equipment

computers (ubuntu)

schedule

hours

rules

Introduction

Hi, my name is Ryan Kopf. I started this project early in 2008 with a group of 5 friends to help the local community. Here in Muscatine, there is almost nothing to keep young people like myself entertained. As a result, we've seen break-ins, vandalism, and drug busts even in our high school. Somebody needed to do something about this problem.

I understand that the reason young people turn to drugs and violence is because they don't have a better environment, and have nothing positive to do. And then I decided to start this project. It originated in my first video game center project, moved into my mayoral campaign and grew into it's own life. The plan is relatively straightforward – create something more for teenagers to do. We Hope to raise \$50,000 to build a video game center. This place will provide a friendly, social atmosphere, free from drugs, alcohol, or violence.

My plan is to use the creative power of the Internet to rally people together behind this idea. There are hundreds of cities across the country that would love to have such an idea in place – and giving to this one will benefit all them. Once we show the strong desire to give young people a positive place to be free from drugs, other cities across the country can follow our lead and open similar places.

So please, I ask you to help us with this project. My friends and I have worked for countless hours reviewing our plans, building support, and thinking up how we can do this. You can help in many ways. Contribute money. Write a blog about this idea. Tell your friends. Send us your suggestions. I can not do this alone, and I'll need your help.



Goal

Our goal is to raise \$50,000 to help start a community video game center in Muscatine.

Atmosphere

We want this to be a positive, *relaxed* atmosphere. This idea was created by teenagers, for teenagers – others are free to enjoy and participate to, however. There will be rules, but not many. Over regulation can kill good ideas. The basic rules will be that physical violence, alcohol, drugs, and harassment will not be tolerated.

Ratings & Consent

Video games will be rated anywhere from E to M. We will require anyone under 13 to have parental consent before playing any other games, but beyond that we don't believe in excessive censorship. We understand that most people have the maturity to take responsible actions, and those that don't will be handled in an individual basis.

Post-Goal

If we reach beyond our goal, any additional money will go into making our project better. We can use additional money to buy more space, a better location, newer computers, more games, a faster Internet connection, or even to lessen monthly membership costs.

Profits

The profits made off of our project will be reinvested into community, somehow. This could involve opening additional game centers, donating to the community foundation, among many other options.

Mission Statement

To start and operate a facility to benefit young people in our community with entertainment including video games, socialization, and a positive atmosphere.

Vision Statement

We will redesign the community in our city to have more positive alternatives for young people as a direct result of our existence.

Positioning Statement

To be the place for teenagers to want to spend their free time in our city.

Activities

There will be a wide variety of activities at our game center. There will be at least 1 Nintendo Wii featuring various interactive games on a projection screen. We will have at least 7 computers for playing computer games and using the Internet. There will be couches for lounging and watching television, anime, movies, etc during downtown. There may be arcade games, additional computers, movie features, or more depending on our final budget.

Startup Budget

5 computers costing \$450 each.	\$2250
3 computers costing \$700 each.	\$2100
2 arcade machines \$2000 each.	\$4000
1 underground building	\$39000
Networking N+ router & modem	\$500
Painting & Artwork	\$500
Printing Flyers, Articles, Etc	\$500
Starter Games Budget	\$1150
Total Budget.....	\$50000

Location

We plan to locate somewhere within Muscatine, IA. The exact location is yet to be determined, because there are a large number of possible locations which can not be excluded until we have a very specific budget. Location ideas include a couple of places listed on the cities demolition list (post-demolition and cleanup), several areas downtown, certain open spaces, among others.

Underground

The “Underground” part of our project name comes from our idea to build our building underground. This would save in heat and energy costs over the long term, keeping us sustainable. We realize this may be costly, however, and if a more viable alternative (renting space, building a normal building, etc) comes up we will certainly keep it in mind.



Hours

Monday	3pm-11pm
Tuesday	3pm-11pm
Wednesday	3pm-11pm
Thursday	3pm-11pm
Friday	3pm-Midnight
Saturday	2pm-2am
Sunday	Noon-9pm

Admission

\$20/month	1 month	
\$16.67/month	3 months	
\$15/month	12 months	Save \$60!
\$14/month	24 months	
\$10/week	1 week	

1 visit per month – absolutely free

Budget

Expenditures

Insurance...	\$100
Electricity...	\$100
Internet...	\$100
Water...	\$100
Heat...	\$50
Advertising...	\$160
Games Budget...	\$200
Total...	\$810

Income

(1 month)	x 20...	\$400
(3 months)	x 20...	\$333.40
(12 months)	x 20...	\$300
(24 months)	x 20...	\$280
Total...		\$1313.40

Management Staff Members

Ryan Kopf – Wise Owl
Nate Foutch – Night Owl
More to come as updated.

Volunteer

To volunteer time and energy to the campaign, contact us at www.chronunderground.com for our coordinated effort. We need volunteers to submit their ideas, share their opinions, digg our stories, blog about the idea, and much more.

Corporate Sponsorship

Would your company like to support our community effort? Great! We'd be happy to have your support. Some things we need contributed include building materials, video games, computers, digging services, security equipment and more. We are also open to other ideas. Contact us at www.chronunderground.com for more information.

Sustainability

We will charge a monthly membership fee no more than \$20 per month to allow access to our youth video game center. This will allow us to pay for monthly costs and keep us able to buy new equipment. The building will be mainly underground, saving money on energy over the long term. We will buy energy efficient light bulbs and computer system whenever possible.



Music

Music will be playing as an ambiance all the time. Music selection will vary greatly, depending on requests, time of day, and more. There will be no hateful or disparaging music played.

Televisions

We may have cable connected to some TVs, but we may not. We hope to constantly be playing new movies and anime episodes, to ensure that young people want to spend their time at our center.

Decoration

The decoration of our game center will be a high priority, and we hope to allow it to be somewhat changeable to provide an ever shifting sense of atmosphere. We hope to use energetic colors in all of our decorations to keep the overall tone cheerful and uplifting, with special focus on contrasts. There will be colored lights, moving objects, and more, to ensure that there is always a vibrant feeling.

Events

We will hold special events frequently. These may include prize drawings, art contests, video game contests, card game tournaments, all night lan parties, Friday night magic, D&D nights, free pass days, birthday parties, holiday celebrations, gift exchanges, special guests, speakers, book clubs, technology seminars, idea forums, and many others.

Internet Access

Internet access will be granted on all our computers, without special filtering software installed. The computers will, however, be in open public space, allowing constant monitoring. We believe censorship violates first amendment freedoms, and that most Internet content filters block innocent content more often than bad content.

Food

There may be an area designated for food consumption. No food will be sold on the premises, but snack items may be offered. We plan to work out an arrangement with a locally owned pizzeria for special delivery pricing.

Marketing

Our goals include becoming the place that teenagers in our community will want to spend their time. As a result, we will need to ensure that the public knows all about our center. We will use a wide variety of marketing techniques to garner business. This will include use of various social networking websites, connecting to the community in local event calendars, sponsoring student achievement, and much more. We will likely dedicate a small portion in the budget to buy advertisements to bring more people to our game center.

People In Charge

One of the important parts of this plan is that it is a youth center for young people, by young people. As a result, we will form multiple committees to decide the direction of our community focused video game center. Committee membership will be based on meeting attendance, and attendance in school classes. Committees will determine which new projects we will spend money on, which snacks to offer, and which video games to buy.

Educational Panels

We will offer various educational panels on fun and exciting things semi-weekly. These will most often be led by our members, to teach others. Topics could include the Japanese language, computer programming, website design, video game design, ancient history, and beyond – anything someone is interested in teaching. To reward people for attending panels and passing a related quiz we will offer a 10% discount to people who attend at least one per month. People who offer panels will get a 20% discount for that month. Panels will typically be 30 minute lectures, followed by 10 minutes of discussion, and then a 5 minute quiz.

Committees

Committees will make many important decisions for our youth center.

- * Leadership Committee – The committee that controls the entire project, and gets to appoint committees specific tasks and controls the budget. Attendance highly mandatory and only the biggest contributors/volunteers get in this committee.
- * Ambiance Committee – Gets to decide the best positioning of computers, tables, couches, televisions; decides what music we play and more
- * Games Committee – Is given a budget and gets to decide which games to buy or buy more of, which systems to get, and more.
- * Computer Committee – Gets to decide which computers we buy, from who, and how much we spend, along with security measures and our use of open source software.
- * Panel Committee – In charge of finding people to do panels, coming up with panel ideas, and ensuring that we have panels.
- * Internet Committee – Makes decisions related to our website and many social networking profiles.

List Of Open Source Games & Programs To Be Included

OpenOffice.org

The GIMP

SuperTux

Battle for Wesnoth

Neverball

Pingus

StepMania

NetHack Falcon's Eye

Eternal Lands

Secret Maryo Chronicles

Many more yet to be determined by the gaming committee.

Commercial Software To Have Installed

Age of Mythology

Yugioh Virtual Desktop

World of Warcraft

Nintendo Wii Games

Wii Sports

Mario Party

Others TBD

Security Software

To keep our computers secure and up to date, we may install software such as “Returnil Virtual System Personal Edition”, “Windows Steady State”, or another Deepfreeze alternative.