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Make, Play and Vote On Original Video Games at the Melrose Center's Orlando Game Jam and Gaming Expo



ORLANDO, Fla., February 5, 2024 – Create a video game over the weekend, then enjoy mingling with local game studios and educators at the [Orlando Game Jam](#) and Gaming Expo from February 22-25. Both events will be hosted at the Dorothy Lumley Melrose Center for Technology, Innovation and Creativity at Orlando Public Library. Game Jam participants will compete to make a game from scratch, then play the games and vote on who will receive bragging rights and cash prizes, sponsored by the Friends of the Library, during the Orlando Gaming Expo on February 25.

The Game Jam tasks participants to form a team and create a video game – from conception to finished, playable product – over a two-day period. The concept is modeled after musician jam sessions, with the goal of fostering creativity and innovation among game developers and designers.

Interested gamers can visit the Melrose Center on Thursday, February 22 from 4-7 p.m. for an information session to learn the secret theme, form a team and make a plan. During this session, Orlando-based tech entrepreneur and co-founder of OMG Labs, Kunal Patel, will give a talk about post-jam opportunities in the field. Teams can then make use of the Melrose Center's extensive resources to craft their game during extended hours on Friday, February 23 and Saturday, February 24. Game Jam participants must turn in their games and have their booths ready by noon on Sunday, February 25. Teams will then showcase their games to the public during the Orlando Gaming Expo.

The [Orlando Gaming Expo](#) will take place at the Melrose Center from 1-5 p.m. on Sunday, February 25. Attendees will have the chance to play, give feedback and vote on games made during the Orlando Game Jam. Local video game studios, educators and developers will also be present to mingle, answer

questions and allow guests to learn more about Orlando's gaming scene. The winners of the Orlando Game Jam will be announced during the closing ceremonies at 5 p.m.

Learn more about the Game Jam and register to participate at ocls.info/gamejam.