

## A Community Update About COVID-19

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### Updated March 14, 2020

To our Milwaukee Public Museum community,

We have made the difficult decision to close the Museum and Daniel M. Soref Planetarium and Dome Theater to the public today at 5 p.m. until further notice. Our top priority remains the health and safety of our staff, volunteers, visitors, and community.

Though there have been no cases of the COVID-19 virus at MPM, like other cultural, scientific, and educational organizations in Milwaukee, we are committed to helping mitigate the spread of the virus and have decided the best way to reduce the risk would be to close MPM to our visitors and members.

While we are closed for public and private programs and events, as Wisconsin's resource for nature and culture, we are committed to being there for you using our digital resources. Please visit us at [www.mpm.edu](http://www.mpm.edu) and follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram for the latest news as well as information on our collections, research, and exhibits.

This was not a decision we came to lightly, though it is the right one for our community, especially those who are most-at-risk. We look forward to re-opening our doors to you again soon.

Please stay safe and healthy.

*Dr. Ellen Censky*  
President & CEO

### Updated March 12, 2020

We realize that there are many concerns surrounding the COVID-19 novel coronavirus. As always, we're committed to maintaining a safe environment for our visitors, members, staff, and supporters, and as such are actively monitoring the [Wisconsin Department of Health](#), [Milwaukee County Health & Human Services](#), the [City of Milwaukee Health Department](#), and the [CDC](#).

Though the situation is changing quickly, currently the risk to our community is low and we are currently open and welcoming visitors to the Museum -- [though the Streets Alive! event scheduled for this weekend has been cancelled.](#)

#### What we're doing at MPM to ensure your safe visit:

- Installing more hand sanitizers in public spaces
- Increasing the frequency of cleaning in public spaces with CDC-approved disinfectants
- Disinfecting with an Electrostatic Disinfectant Sprayer
- Adding signage about hand cleaning
- Adding educational panels from the New York Hall of Science with information about coronavirus to our lobby
- Prohibiting staff business travel outside the US
- Asking staff who are not feeling well to stay home

#### We ask that visitors to MPM:

- Wash hands thoroughly
- Stay home if you are sick
- Find opportunities to spread out in the Museum
- Be attentive if Visitor Service staff share any guidance related to ensuring a healthy visit

If there are any changes in our hours, status, or programming, we'll share that information on our website and social media accounts. If you're registered for an upcoming event at MPM, you'll be directly contacted should anything change.

Thank you for your support and we look forward to seeing you at MPM soon.

*Dr. Ellen Censky*  
President & CEO