To our members, friends and visitors,

We recognize that people take refuge in art, particularly during times of stress and upheaval, and therefore we want to be here and remain open for our visitors. We are mindful of concerns surrounding the coronavirus (COVID-19) and are committed to being responsive, following the recommendations of US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Chicago’s Department of Public Health. As the situation changes we will update our plans based on their recommendations and staff capacity. Please call ahead or check our website or Facebook page for updates.

To help people maintain social distancing in the building, we are limiting the number of visitors in the building to 45 people. If we exceed this number, you may need to wait to be admitted. You may call or email ahead to reserve a ticket for a timeslot at visitor.services@mitchellmuseum.org or 847-475-1030.

Further, we have implemented extra precautionary measures to disinfect our spaces throughout the day. Public areas are cleaned twice a week, and we are cleaning high-touch and high-traffic areas such as door handles, entryways, handrails, and wheelchair lifts several times a day. We have posted prevention tips and reminders at bathrooms and entrances/exits.

Upcoming Events & Programs:

The “Reclaiming Cultural Treasures” exhibit will be opening to the public as planned on March 20, 2020, but without its formal celebrations so visitors may go through the exhibit following social distancing precautions.

While the exhibit will be available to view during regular museum hours, we are cancelling the following events:

- Exhibit Preview and Donor Appreciation Party on Thursday March 19 (cancelled)
- Tour of New Exhibit “Reclaiming Cultural Treasures,” Friday March 20 (cancelled)

School’s Out Spring Break Crafts will continue to be offered at the museum with craft kits with cultural information sheets that are available to purchase and complete in the museum if space allows or to take home. If you would like “to-go craft kits” please call or email ahead so we can have them ready for you. This program is offered Tuesday – Friday 10-5pm starting 3/17 and run through 4/17.

In order for us to safely stay open, we ask that our patrons assist us by following the recommended guidelines:

- If you are sick or feeling unwell, or you are in close contact with someone who is sick, we urge you to stay home and avoid close contact with others, as recommended by the CDC and Chicago Department of Public Health.
- Maintain the recommended 6 feet away from other patrons not in your group.
• Wash your hands. Do so often. Use soap and water for at least 20 seconds.
• If opportunity for hand washing is not available, use hand sanitizers.
• Avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth.
• Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
• Cover your coughs and sneezes. Hold a tissue over your mouth and nose when you cough or sneeze. Throw that tissue away and, again, wash your hands. If you do not have a tissue, cough or sneeze into your upper sleeve (not your hands).
• No handshakes or hugs, please. A wave or verbal “hello” is acceptable for greeting others. (Elbow bumps are just too close.)

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,

Kathleen McDonald

Executive Director

Mitchell Museum of the American Indian