



The Ella Sharp Museum will temporarily close in response to the Novel Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19)

To the Jackson Community,

At the Ella Sharp Museum, you and all the members of our community are our top priority. Our commitment is to maintain an environment that is safe for our visitors, staff, members, and all supporters.

Today, the museum made the difficult decision to temporarily close to the public. We will close effective at 5 p.m. on March 13 through April 6. We are actively monitoring developments related to COVID-19 and listening to the guidance of authorities including the Jackson County Health Department, State of Michigan, and the CDC.

We are following the recommendations of local, state, and national officials who have advised that “social distancing” is a critical measure to reduce the spread of the COVID-19. The museum has no known cases of exposure to COVID-19.

All public events, on-site education programs, classes, and guided tours to be held at the museum will not occur during the temporarily closure. This includes all events and programming in the Hurst Planetarium, the annual *Sugaring, Shearing, & Science Festival*, *Ella's Explorers*, Ceramic Classes, & *State-wide Astronomy Night*.

We are working closely with community partners, members, volunteers, and scheduled group visitors to keep them informed about the updated closure. For the most recent updates on public events, classes, and exhibits, please visit our **webpage** or visit us on **Facebook**.

What measures we're taking at the museum:

- Temporarily closing our doors at 5 p.m. on March 13 through April 6.
- Increase the cleanliness of public spaces for future visitors, staff, and our community.
- Keeping employees informed about developments and community updates.

Get the most up-to-date information:

Please refer to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for accurate updates and recommendations related to COVID-19.

We greatly appreciate your cooperation and understanding of the museum's decision to temporarily close. These steps will ensure that our community can return to the museum knowing that safety is our top priority.

While our doors are closed, the staff will be on site prepping for future programming, events, and exhibits. We eagerly look forward to opening our doors in the near future.

Thank you for your understanding and support.

Diane Gutenkauf
Executive Director of Ella Sharp Museum

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