

Media Alert

What: Thinkery announces temporary closure amid COVID-19 crisis

When: Friday, March 13 through (at least) Sunday, March 22

Where: Thinkery at the Meredith Learning Lab (1830 Simond Ave. Austin, TX 78723)

Austin, TX – March 13, 2020 – Thinkery has announced that the museum will be closed to the public, effective immediately, through at least Sunday, March 22. This closure is in response to the growing concern related to the COVID-19/Coronavirus crisis.

The closure extends to all programming, events, and Spring Break Camps, as well as regular operating hours.

"Thinkery takes the health and well-being of our community seriously," said Patricia Young Brown, Thinkery's Chief Operating Officer. "As a hands-on learning environment that caters to children and families, we're committed to operating in a responsible way that promotes a healthy community and adheres to the best advice of public health officials at the local, state, and national levels."

The decision followed the confirmation earlier this morning that two presumed-positive COVID-19 test results have been reported in Austin/Travis County. Thinkery's Executive Committee of the Board of Directors voted to close the museum effective immediately for the safety of both visitors and staff.

"We truly regret the impact that closing the museum may have on our Members and guests," Young Brown said. "However, we feel this is ultimately in the best interest of not just our museum family, but the entire Austin community as well."

Thinkery will continue to monitor news and guidance from city, state and federal health authorities and will communicate any additional changes to Thinkery operations that may result.

The public is encouraged to stay up-to-date via Thinkery's website (thinkeryaustin.org) and the museum's social media accounts.

For more information, contact Jeff Dellinger at (512) 469-6224 or jdellinger@thinkeryaustin.org

About Thinkery

Thinkery is Austin's home for "why" and "how." Our mission is to create innovative learning experiences that equip and inspire the next generation of creative problem solvers. Thinkery offers 40,000 square feet of indoor and outdoor exhibits for children and families to learn through play. It's a place where science and families play side by side and people connect with ideas by doing, making and experiencing.

Thinkery is a 501(c)(3), private nonprofit organization; last year we served more than 460,000 children and their grown-ups