

Media Alert

What: Thinkery extends museum closure to at least May 1, 2020

When: Now through (at least) Friday, May 1

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

Austin, TX – March 20, 2020 – Thinkery has announced that, in observance of the City of Austin's [Order of Control for Mass and Community gatherings](#), the museum will be closed until at least May 1, 2020.

The closure extends to all in-person programming and events, as well as regular operating hours.

"We remain hopeful that we'll be able to reopen by May 1," said Patricia Young Brown, Thinkery's Chief Operating Officer. "However, the health and safety of our staff, our guests, and the entire Austin community remain our foremost consideration. We will continue to follow the guidance of local, state and national officials and, if circumstances require this closure be extended again, we will do so."

Young Brown acknowledged the impact and upheaval that COVID-19-related closures are having on local parents, caregivers, educators and families, "Even through the museum itself is closed, we know the need is greater than ever," she said. "We're doing all that we can to adapt our museum to meet the evolving needs of our community. Our team is actively exploring new ways to bring the Thinkery experience home and to the public, including posting activity videos and story times to our social media channels." All of this original content, along with links to other resources from around the internet, will also be available at thinkeryaustin.org/athome.

In the meantime, Thinkery's focus remains on its mission of inspiring the next generation of creative problem solvers and bringing unique, STEAM-based learning opportunities to thousands of families throughout Central Texas.

Like many businesses and institutions throughout Austin, the unexpected and lengthy closure of the museum poses a significant financial challenge to Thinkery. "As a non-profit museum, we rely on the community for support year-round, and even more so in this time of crisis." Anyone interested in making a donation may do so online at thinkeryaustin.org/donate.

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