

For Immediate Release

Thinkery updates masking policy; will adjust weekly based on CDC Community Levels

Masks will no longer be required during Low and Medium risk periods

April 4, 2022 – Austin, TX – Beginning Tuesday, April 5, Thinkery will update its masking requirements for staff and guests during General Admission sessions.

“From the earliest days of the COVID-19 pandemic, Thinkery has prioritized the health and safety of our guests, staff, and our Central Texas community,” said Thinkery Chief Executive Officer Andy Bell. “Our [health and safety policies](#) have been based on the most current scientific guidance from the [Centers for Disease Control](#) and [Austin Public Health](#).

“By aligning our masking policy with the CDC’s Community Levels,” Bell said, “we hope to be more flexible and responsive based on current conditions in our local community.”

The new policies will apply to all visitors, staff, and guests during General Admission sessions and programs.

- **At Low Community Levels**, masking is *recommended* for those who are unvaccinated or at high risk of serious disease – as well as anyone who prefers to do so;
- **At Medium Community Levels**, masking will be *recommended* for everyone ages 2 and up;
- **At High Community Levels**, masking will be ***required*** for everyone 2 and up

Students and staff of Thinkery’s Little Thinkers Preschool will continue to follow existing masking rules through the end of the academic year in May. A full explanation of Thinkery’s mask usage policies for each of the three CDC-defined levels can be found online at thinkeryaustin.org/healthinfo. The museum will also post the updated weekly Community Level and corresponding guidance on the front page of its website every Friday morning.

“Our Thinkery team is very pleased to be taking a big step back toward normalcy while still observing and responding to the changing pandemic conditions,” said Bell. “We are tremendously thankful to everyone for their support and willingness to observe the safety policies which have brought us to this point, and we look forward to continuing to serve you!”

For additional information, please 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.