



## **Please Touch Museum is Closed Through May 18, 2020**

Over the past few weeks, our families, communities, the City of Philadelphia and our nation have been challenged as we collectively respond to the Coronavirus pandemic amidst ever-changing guidance from city, state and Federal government officials.

The interim guidance, issued by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) on March 15, 2020, recommended canceling all in-person events consisting of 50 people or more in the United States for the next eight weeks. Further adding to the guidance, the Federal government has recommended that gatherings of no more than 10 people be limited for an undetermined period.

Given this, and after great deliberation and consultation with our Board of Trustees, we have made the difficult but necessary decision to close the Museum to visitors until **Monday, May 18, 2020**. That date may change depending on future recommendations and mandates, but this approach aligns with current CDC guidelines.

I share this news with a very heavy heart as our visitors and members bring such joy to Memorial Hall. We miss hearing the daily laughter, seeing your smiles and of course, celebrating with an "End of Day" Parade. While we need to practice social distancing now, we look forward to welcoming you back to the Museum when we can reopen. In the meantime, a few tips:

- We recommend the ABCs as the perfect song to accompany your handwashing.
- Don't forget how important daily story time is.
- And keep using your big, brilliant imaginations to play and learn at home!

Please stay safe and healthy until we can be together again.

### **Patricia D. Wellenbach**

President & CEO

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