MARCH 8, 2020

Dear Heard Museum Family and Friends,

Embedded in our mission, Advancing American Indian Art, is a decades long commitment to our communities’ well-being. Given the heightened focus and quickly changing nature of the Coronavirus (Covid-19) outbreak, we felt it important to update you on the precautionary steps the Heard Museum is taking for the health and well-being of our visitors.

The Heard Museum is open for business daily, and this weekend we are celebrating our 62nd Indian Fair & Market with a full complement of artists and increased attendance. There are no plans to interrupt regular hours of operations at this time. The Heard Museum leadership team is closely following the public health recommendations of the Arizona Department of Health Services, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention and the World Health Organization.

Using these guidelines our facilities staff has been sanitizing high-traffic areas, including surfaces, door handles, and elevator buttons. Alcohol based hand sanitizer is available for use at all restrooms and additional dispensers are being added to other high-traffic areas such as the Admissions Lobby and the Courtyard Café and Cantina.

On Thursday, March 5, 2020 the CDC also made the following recommendation for people who are at higher risk for Coronavirus / Covid-19 Complications. We feel it important to share this information with you. Older adults and people who have severe chronic medical conditions like heart, lung or kidney disease seem to be at higher risk for more serious COVID-19 illness. Early data suggest older people are twice as likely to have serious COVID-19 illness. This may be because:

- As people age, their immune systems change, making it harder for their body to fight off diseases and infection.
- Many older adults are also more likely to have underlying health conditions that make it harder to cope with and recover from illness.
- If a COVID-19 outbreak happens in your community, it could last for a long time. Depending on the severity of the outbreak, public health officials may recommend community actions to reduce exposures to COVID-19. These actions can slow the spread and reduce the impact of disease.

If you are at increased risk for COVID-19 complications due to age or because you have a severe underlying medical condition, it is especially important for you to take actions to reduce your risk of exposure.

For the most up to date and accurate information, we recommend the following government websites:

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- Arizona Department of Health Services - Coronavirus Home

As always, our Visitor Services Team is available to answer any questions you may have regarding planning a visit, utilizing your member benefits, and learning more about an exhibition. The Heard Museum does not charge exchange fees and any pre-paid admission or passes you have will be honored for a future visit. If you have concerns about your order, please contact us at contact@heard.org or 602-252.8840 if you have questions related to any upcoming visits.

The Heard Museum remains open for business daily with the hope of inspiring our visitors with the internationally acclaimed exhibitions, programs and events we present. If there are any changes to our schedule or future events, we will share that information via email, social media and website, heard.org.

With regards,
David M. Roche
Dickey Family Director & CEO
Heard Museum