

Dear Danville Museum Friends and Members

Danville Museum of Fine Arts and History is deeply committed to public engagement. Until further notice from the CDC the museum will remain open. We want to assure you that DMFAH is monitoring the COVID-19 virus closely as we move through the fall and the winter.

DMFAH is establishing ongoing communication with our local public health department to facilitate access to relevant information before and during any outbreak of coronavirus that might occur. We are moving forward with plans to keep museum staff, volunteers and visitors safe.

Our actions to maintain a healthy and safe environment for visitors and staff during the COVID-19 virus alerts will be:

- Clean restrooms on a regular basis (three times a day) and keeping soap dispensers filled, as well as elevators and railings wiped down.
- Add hand sanitizers for visitors throughout our venue and make sure they are full and accessible at all times.
- Implementing sanitizing and disinfecting procedures for exhibitions several times a day – paying special attention to deep clean popular interactive areas.
- We have installed CDC posters around the museum with health information.
- Posters and staff will communicate that all who enter the museum wear a mask and sign in at the front desk. COVID-19 sanitizing stations and masks are available at the front desk. All who enter must pay a \$10 fee or be a member of the museum. There will be no exceptions. Group tours need to remain small and must be arranged a week before visiting the museum.
- **Community events, meetings and programs on specific days will require that all attending the event, meeting or program need to have their participants sign in and log their temperatures at the front desk.**
- Interactive devices such as audio tours with interactive audio equipment will not be part of any tours. A Self Guiding Pamphlet will be available to all visitors.
- We have limited employee travel to coronavirus hot spots, both internationally, nationally and locally.
- All employees, volunteers, interns, fellows and community partners occupying House 126 and the Swanson Studio will log their temperatures on a daily basis starting October 1, 2020 and all visitors will be asked to log their temperatures starting November 1, 2020. Thermometers have been made available to all entering the Sutherlin Mansion, The Swanson Studio and House 126.
- We are keeping in close contact with the Virginia Department of Health (VDH) <http://www.vdh.virginia.gov/> and the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) <https://www.cdc.gov/>.
- We have cancelled our large crowd after hour events starting MARCH 13, 2020 but the museum exhibitions will still be open to the public from 10am - 5pm (Tuesday – Saturday) and Sunday from 2-5pm. Our Gift shop will be

closed. Smaller gatherings can be accommodated but need to be approved by the Executive Director.

- We have a good contingency plan in place and will be developing flexible policies and procedures and try to listen to our community partners. We have canceled programming in Senior Care Facilities on request of the administrators of those facilities.
- The museum exhibitions remain open to the public, but we remain focused on the safety and health of our community and our policies can change.
- Gov. Ralph Northam on Friday, March 13, 2020 ordered all schools in Virginia to close for at least two weeks to limit the spread of coronavirus. Different measures have been put in place throughout the summer and fall months and this impacts all programming that the museum is doing with public schools and the ArtSmart program in the “See and Do Room.” Our studio classes are limited to 5 participants per class. Outdoor yoga classes can increase their numbers according to the space available for social distancing outside on the lawn.

DMFAH’s response to the virus is based on the extent of the outbreak (and the number of COVID-19 cases in Danville) as well as the size of our organization and workforce (Staffing capacity), and the complexity of our day-to-day operations.

Elsabé Dixon (Executive Director)