



**Palm Springs
Art Museum**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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PALM SPRINGS ART MUSEUM RESPONDS TO COVID-19 CONCERNS

Palm Springs, CA (March 12, 2020) — Palm Springs Art Museum is concerned about the health and safety of its visitors, volunteers, and staff. In response to the evolving Coronavirus (COVID-19) situation, the museum has initiated precautionary measures—providing alcohol-based sanitizer at all entry points, admission desks, and restrooms, the use of which is encouraged by extensive signage and staff recommendation. We are also promoting social distancing in our hands-free environments.

At this juncture, we are keeping the galleries and exhibitions open at all three of our locations. However, the museum is postponing and rescheduling events and lectures through the end of March, with possible extensions based on the latest public health recommendations. Additionally, all docent, Frey House II, walking, and school tours have been cancelled for the remainder of the month. Rental events scheduled at the museum are being considered on a case-by-case basis. Patrons are encouraged to use their own discretion regarding attendance.

These decisions come in accordance with guidelines issued by the California Department of Public Health.

“Keeping our community safe is foremost in our minds during this unfolding health crisis,” says Louis Grachos, the museum’s JoAnn McGrath Executive Director/CEO. “Though it is disappointing to have to reschedule or postpone long-anticipated events, we feel it best to minimize chances of exposure that inevitably arise in large gatherings. We are keeping our galleries open at this time since the museum is a hands-free experience and we have taken prudent steps to reduce risk of transmission. The museum’s board and staff are reducing face-to-face meetings, and will continue to monitor the situation and make updates.”

Palm Springs Art Museum is the largest cultural institution in the Coachella Valley and includes three locations in Palm Springs and Palm Desert. The flagship building, located in downtown Palm Springs, features compelling art exhibitions, a vast permanent collection, and the Annenberg Theater, all in a 150,000-square-foot, architecturally significant building. The Palm Springs Art Museum Architecture and Design Center, Edwards Harris Pavilion, features exhibitions and programming that explore the rich topics of architecture and design. Palm Springs Art Museum in Palm Desert occupies The Galen, an 8,400-square-foot, Silver LEED–certified building, and features rotating exhibitions and special collections. The Galen is surrounded by the four-acre Faye Sarkowsky Sculpture Garden.