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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **McKinley Presidential Library & Museum to Re-open on June 16 New Hours and Policies in Place for COVID-19**

Canton, Ohio... The McKinley Presidential Library & Museum will re-open on Tuesday June 16 at 9:00 AM with new hours and policies in place in response to COVID-19.

The Museum will be open from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM and 1:00 to 4:00 PM from Tuesday through Saturday. Guests will need to choose a morning or afternoon time slot to visit the Museum. The Museum will be CLOSED from 12:00 – 1:00 PM to disinfect high touch areas in all public spaces. The Museum will be closed on Sunday and Monday.

“Keeping our guests safe is our top priority,” said Executive Director Kim Kenney. “Staff will be using Quat-Stat 5, a hospital-grade, one-step disinfectant virucide cleaner, to disinfect our exhibits, railings, door handles, etc. throughout the day, but we will be doing a deep disinfecting process twice a day. We will close for one hour between our morning and afternoon visitation slots, and we will repeat this process before we open the next day at 9:00 AM.”

In order to provide a safe environment for social distancing, admission will be based on 50% of the Museum’s building capacity. The Museum will be selling a maximum of 220 admissions for each time slot. Guests must choose ONE time slot to visit. Morning visitors will not be permitted to return for the afternoon time slot. Reservations are not available at this time, and tickets will be sold on a first come, first served basis.

“There are some exhibits that are difficult or impossible for us to keep clean during this time,” said Kenney. “Please be aware that some areas of the Museum will not be open. To avoid gathering too many people in a small space, all science shows and planetarium shows have been suspended until at least Labor Day.”

Guests will be required to stand 6 feet apart while in line to purchase admission tickets. Depending on the size of a family, the Museum can accommodate 1-2 families in line inside. Visitors will be asked to wait on the front porch of the Museum until there is space for the next party to enter the building.

All visitors will be required to wear masks at all times inside the Museum to protect each other and Museum staff and volunteers who are in vulnerable populations. Single-use masks will be available at the Admissions Window for \$1.00, which is below cost.

The Auditorium will be closed until further notice, so no outside food or beverages will be permitted in the building. Guests can use the outdoor picnic tables, but they must maintain proper social distance between family groups.

“We have added hand sanitizer stations throughout the building, and we encourage our visitors to use them often,” said Kenney. “To help us maintain a safe environment, we are asking our guests to refrain from unnecessarily touching surfaces in our building as much as possible.”

Museum Shoppe guests will be required to use hand sanitizer before entering the Museum Shoppe. Guests will be limited to 5 at a time inside the Museum Shoppe. Curbside pick-up is available for Museum Shoppe purchases made online or over the phone.

We will not be able to accept artifact donations without an appointment until further notice. If you are interested in donating artifacts or archival materials, please call 330-455-7043 and ask for Collections Manager Kait Bergert for 3D objects and Archivist Mark Holland for paper-based donations.

“The staff has spent a lot of time during our closure brainstorming how to keep everyone safe when we re-open,” said Kenney. “Our new policies represent best practices in the museum field in response to COVID-19. We are excited to welcome visitors back into our building, and we want everyone to know that we take your health and safety very seriously.”

### **ABOUT THE MUSEUM**

The McKinley Presidential Library & Museum is located at 800 McKinley Monument Dr NW in Canton. The Keller Gallery is the Museum’s temporary exhibition space and features a variety of topics each year. The Museum also includes the McKinley National Memorial, McKinley Gallery, Street of Shops, The Stark County Story, Discover World, and the Hoover-Price Planetarium. The Museum is open Tuesday – Saturday from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM and 1:00 to 4:00. The Museum is closed Sunday and Monday.

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