

The Discovery Temporarily Closes to the Public, Launches New Program

Hybrid & Distance Learning Support Program offers middle school students distance learning resources in a safe, structured, productive environment

RENO, **Nev.** (August 18, 2020) – The Terry Lee Wells Nevada Discovery Museum (The Discovery) will be closing to the public effective Aug. 17 and plans to reopen during Washoe County School District's fall break Oct. 3–10. Following fall break, the museum plans to remain open on Saturdays and Sundays.

"With museum visitation at less than 20% of normal levels since we reopened amidst the uncertainty of the COVID-19 pandemic, we made the difficult but fiscally responsible decision to close the museum," said Mat Sinclair, President/CEO of The Discovery. "While we are closed for general visitation, we will continue to deliver the museum's mission and serve the needs of our community through programs like the Hybrid & Distance Learning Support Program."

The Discovery's new Hybrid & Distance Learning Support program is designed to support the educational needs of middle school students in grades 6–8 on hybrid (A/B) schedules and those who are participating in distance learning. The program will provide students with:

- Supervision on days when they are not attending school in person.
- Dedicated time for distance learning and homework assigned by their WCSD classroom teacher.
- Wi-Fi access for use when doing school work.
- Peer-to-peer interaction and collaboration.
- Additional hands-on science exploration and learning opportunities.

The program will be offered weekdays from 7:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. with extended hours available for an additional fee. To learn more about the Hybrid & Distance Learning Support program, or to register for a two-week block visit <u>nvdm.org</u>.

The Discovery continues to seek donations for the museum's Resiliency Fund. Philanthropic support remains crucial to reopening the museum to the public. Please consider making a donation to help The Discovery survive this financial hardship.

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About The Discovery

The Discovery creates interest and engagement in science for all. Through unique, hands-on programs and exhibits, The Discovery creates learning experiences that range from simple curiosity to deep understanding, empowering a community of critical thinkers. The Discovery is a locally founded nonprofit 501(c)3 organization. To learn more about The Discovery and how you can help support the museum's mission, visit <u>www.nvdm.org</u>.