

## **MEDIA ALERT**

### **MUSEUM OF SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY USING ITS 3D PRINTERS TO MAKE MASKS AND FACE SHIELDS TO HELP PROVIDE PPE TO CHICAGO HEALTHCARE WORKERS**

**WHAT:** The Museum of Science and Industry, Chicago (MSI) is supporting local hospital and healthcare organizations in need of personal protective equipment (PPE) by activating 20 of its 3D printers to make masks and face shields.

The 3D printers, usually featured in MSI's Wanger Family Fab Lab as a way for guests to learn more about 3D-printing and digital fabrication technology, are being prepped to work in the homes of Museum staff members. Once they are fully operational, MSI estimates being able to produce parts for up to 50 face shields and 30 masks per day.

MSI is working with local makerspaces, universities and community organizations to produce [face shields](#) and [stopgap face masks](#) using designs approved by the National Institutes of Health.

"We're proud to be a part of a maker community that is responding to meet this need for those fighting COVID-19 on the front lines," said Manny Juarez, Director of Science and Integrated Strategies. "This technology allows us to work nimbly, and we're able to adjust what is being printed to ensure it is the most useful, and safe, for essential workers."

The network of Chicago makers is working directly with Chicago-area healthcare providers to ensure the PPE being produced is safe and useful. This rapid response manufacturing approach fills the gap before traditional manufacturers are able to ramp up production on a large scale.

**WHO:** Interviews are available with Manny Juarez, director of science and integrated strategies at MSI.

**IMAGERY:** <https://bit.ly/34z29d7>

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