



**FIVE WINGS**  
ARTS COUNCIL  
**Arts News &  
Opportunities For YOU!**



Dr Osterholm, U of M epidemiologist,  
answers arts community questions about  
COVID19

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Dr. Michael Osterholm, the U of M's internationally renowned epidemiologist, met with arts people via Zoom this week to answer questions about how the social distancing required to slow the spread of the virus is impacting the arts community.

"We miss you. We miss you. The arts are critical to what makes us who we are," he began, admitting that "I made a guest appearance in all three acts of *Wicked* on Broadway a few years ago."

With arts activities halted across the state since mid-March, and many artists and arts organizations anxious to reopen, the interview was eye opening and sobering. Of note was his focus on how the virus spreads through the air - a question for arts organizations whose activities generally are indoors in [buildings with HVAC systems](#).

"We're not driving this tiger, we're riding it" was his most memorable phrase, meaning that we don't actually know how it will behave, when the next waves of infection will come, or how bad it will be. He did say he thought we would be dealing with the virus "for years" and that "you have to plan to hunker down for a while."

You can watch the webinar on [MCA's Coronavirus response page](#).

- Read more about [Dr. Osterholm here](#).
  - Check out the work of [CIDRAP - the Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy at the U of M](#),
  - and recommendations for businesses [here](#).
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MCA is a nonpartisan statewide arts advocacy organization whose mission is to ensure Minnesotans have access to and involvement in the arts. MCA organizes the arts community to lobby the Legislature and Congress on issues important to the nonprofit arts community. If you are interested in advocating for the arts, or want to learn how to activate people in your arts organization or community, please contact us. FYI, MCA is not a grantmaker. For access to state funding, contact the Minnesota State Arts Board [www.arts.state.mn.us](http://www.arts.state.mn.us) or your local Regional Arts Council.

