

Dear Fellow PRSA Chicago Members,

As communicators, family members and neighbors, we've all been significantly impacted by COVID-19. While your membership with PRSA Chicago understandably may not be a priority right now, I do want you to know that as an organization, we want to support you during this difficult time.

We are working to adjust our programming – not only to more online-based events, but also with content that is more helpful to you as we all work through this challenging period.

For our April event, we are working on lining up communications professionals from different industries to share stories and key learnings from the crisis so far via videoconferencing. Please be patient as we work to adjust to our “new normal” for event-based activities.

We are also looking at making significant changes to our flagship event – the Skyline Awards Gala on June 18.

We received nearly 100 entries for our Program Awards, so thank you to those who developed entries to showcase great communications efforts. Our nomination period for our [Personality Awards](#) is open until April 3. If you'd like to nominate a Professional of the Year, Young Professional of the Year, Diversity & Inclusion Champion, Educator of the Year or Team of the Year, this is a great (and free) way to reward someone in your organization for all of the hard work they've done.

Stay tuned for additional details about our Skyline Awards Gala in June and how we are adapting to fit the right tone of the situation.

I also wanted to make sure you are aware of important resources from PRSA, including the following that was recently communicated by T. Garland Stansell, APR, 2020 PRSA National Chair:

- **Crisis Communications Resources:** Many of you are looking for additional information on how best to do your job as you navigate the current situation. To help you address these unprecedented times, PRSA has launched a new section on the PRSA [website](#) with an array of crisis communications resources. Open to members and nonmembers, it includes access to live and on-demand webinars, *Strategies & Tactics* and *PRsay* articles, and advocacy posts.
- **New Online Learning Series:** In addition to the live webinar PRSA hosted last week, the organization is launching a new three-part [online learning series](#) that will address internal, external and digital communications questions. The series will also be available on demand if you miss the live webcasts.
- **MyPRSA Open Forum:** There are a number of interesting conversations happening on the [Open Forum](#). It's proving to be a valuable resource for you to interact with your colleagues nationwide and learn from what is happening in other markets and across different industries.

As communicators, you are on the front lines for your respective organizations. Others are understanding just how critical the communications function is during a time like this. Please know that one of the key values of PRSA is that we are a network of communicators who understand the challenges and can help each other.

We continue to monitor the situation and follow guidance from the national PRSA office as well as local officials. If you have suggestions for additional support we can provide for our local members, please don't hesitate to reach out to me.

Regards,

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