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The Doctor is In New Exhibition at the Charles M. Schulz Museum **Peanuts and the Picture of Health** August 31, 2016 through April 24, 2017

(Santa Rosa, CA) Who could imagine addressing a medical condition like amblyopia (better known as lazy eye) with a cast of characters composed completely of children, a bird, and a dog? Charles Schulz's genius enabled him to accomplish such a feat while evoking a smile of recognition, if not outright laughter.

Featuring over 56 original comic strips and health-related artwork and products, the Charles M. Schulz Museum's upcoming exhibition, *Peanuts and the Picture of Health*, on view from **August 31**, **2016 to April 24**, **2017**, focuses on Charles Schulz's careful study of health issues which inform many *Peanuts* plotlines.

While some of the medical mishaps chronicled in the strips were transferred almost directly from Schulz's own life (a broken foot, knee surgery) or from his experiences raising children (measles vaccination), others, such as amblyopia, took careful research and discussion with medically-trained friends.









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In the case of amblyopia (lazy eye), he consulted with his friends and golfing buddies, Ward Wick and Dan Vaughan, who were both ophthalmologists, to get the details straight. Sally had to wear her eye patch for the prescribed length of treatment. No corners were cut for the sake of Art!

In the May 4, 1961 strip Schroeder asks Charlie Brown if he remembers when kids used to make lemonade stands and wonders out loud what has taken their place. Just then they walk past Lucy in her new psychiatric booth and Charlie Brown replies, "Now, you know!" This type of creative leap from the ordinary (lemonade stand) to the sublimely absurd (Lucy dispensing pearls of wisdom from her psychiatric booth) was a hallmark of Schulz's comic genius.







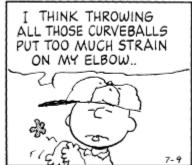


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March 27, 1959 marked the first appearance of Lucy's psychiatric booth. The booth was a stripped down version of the more elaborate and familiar booth that debuted on May 4, 1961.

Schulz grew up playing baseball, football, and ice hockey, and later took up jogging, tennis, and even rollerblading—all pursuits that found themselves playfully depicted in the panels of *Peanuts*. The *Peanuts* Gang can often be found on the links, a rink, or a baseball diamond, and many strips highlight the challenges of recovering from sports-related injuries.







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IMAGES

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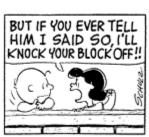
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There is much to poke fun at with dieting and diet fads, but the subject may have taken on a more personal meaning to Schulz after his 1981 quadruple by-pass heart surgery. His own diet certainly changed—a typical breakfast of bacon and eggs was replaced by an English muffin with grape jelly and a small cup of coffee.









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ABOUT THE CHARLES M. SCHULZ MUSEUM & RESEARCH CENTER

The Charles M. Schulz Museum opened in August 2002 to fulfill its mission of preserving, displaying, and interpreting the art of Charles M. Schulz. The museum carries out this mission through changing exhibitions and programming that: build an understanding of cartoonists and cartoon art; illustrate the scope of Schulz's multifaceted career; communicate the stories, inspirations and influences of Charles Schulz; and celebrate the life of Charles Schulz and the Peanuts characters.

LOCATION

The Charles M. Schulz Museum is located 50 minutes north of San Francisco by car on Highway 101. The Museum is located at 2301 Hardies Lane, Santa Rosa, California, 95403.

HOURS

Weekdays Monday thru Friday (except Tuesdays*) 11am – 5pm Saturday & Sunday 10am – 5pm

Closed Tuesdays*

*Open every day throughout the summer (Memorial Day through Labor Day)

ADMISSION FEES

Free – Museum Members, Children 3 and under \$12.00 – Adults \$8.00 – Seniors 62 and over with ID \$5.00 – Children 4-18, college students with valid I.D. card

For more information consult the Museum web site: schulzmuseum.org

Charles M. Schulz Museum & Research Center 2301 Hardies Lane Santa Rosa, CA 95403

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