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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – June 18, 2015

**Free Night and Special Appearance of the Producer of
*A Charlie Brown Christmas***

Friday, June 26, 2015, from 5:00 to 8:00 pm
at the Charles M. Schulz Museum

(Santa Rosa, CA) Celebrate the Schulz Museum's new *Animating Comics* exhibition and the 50th anniversary of *A Charlie Brown Christmas* on **Friday, June 26, from 5:00 – 8:00 pm** with [Lee Mendelson](#), the producer of the award-winning *Peanuts* animated specials. **Mendelson will speak at 5:30 pm** and will talk about the enduring themes of *Peanuts* featured in the various animated television specials. All the specials deal with failure and endurance--from baseball, to Linus and the Great Pumpkin, to unrequited love. Mendelson will be available to meet with visitors and sign books after his talk.

The December 9, 1965 debut of *A Charlie Brown Christmas* brought Charlie Brown and the *Peanuts* Gang home to more than 15 million television viewers and enjoyed immediate acclaim. Earning an Emmy for Best Network Animated Special and a Peabody Broadcasting Award, this 30-minute production and the *Peanuts* films and television specials that followed have become treasured additions to our collective culture. **Their success arose from the longstanding partnership between Charles Schulz, producer Lee Mendelson, and animator Bill Melendez.** Bill Melendez Productions animated more than forty *Peanuts* television specials, four feature-length films, Saturday morning cartoons, and numerous commercial spots.



A Charlie Brown Christmas scene ©PNTS

The Charles M. Schulz Museum's exhibition, ***Animating Comics***, which runs from **May 2 through October 18, 2015**, celebrates the art of bringing comics to life and features rarely displayed production cels from award-winning animated comics, including *Peanuts*, *Batman*, and *Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles*. **The Museum collection boasts four rare animation cels from *A Charlie Brown Christmas*, which are on view together for the first time. This is the Museum's largest exhibition about animation.**

IMAGES

If you would like any images of the Schulz Museum to print in a publication, contact Gina Huntsinger at gina@schulzmuseum.org or (707) 284-1268.

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 multi-faceted 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

\$5.00 – Children 4-18, college students with valid I.D. card, and Seniors 62+

\$10.00 – Adults

For more information consult the Museum web site: www.SchulzMuseum.org.

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

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