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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** October 14, 2017

**Chapter 1 - The Charles M. Schulz Museum is closed until further notice**

On behalf of Mrs. Schulz, the Board of Directors, and the staff, we would like to thank you for all the heartwarming messages of caring and concern over the past week. Although the power has been restored to the Museum and we are no longer in the evacuation zone, air quality continues to be an issue. Once the air is stabilized, staff will begin the process of cleaning the interior of the Museum and examining and cleaning the art. Therefore, the Museum expects to be closed for at least the next two weeks.

Through this devastating and stressful time in our community, the staff have moved us through all the necessary steps to ensure a safe evacuation of the art to securing storage for other artifacts. The stewardship of this collection is in good hands.

The attached picture symbolizes the work of staff to evacuate Charles Schulz's studio chair and drawing table from the Museum, in order to keep them safe from the wildfires.



When we reopen in a few weeks, we will continue to tell the story of this remarkable cartoonist who sat in this chair, at this table, and created a world filled with characters that have come to define many of our life experiences.

We look forward to welcoming you back to the Museum, entertaining and delighting you, making you smile and laugh, and allowing you to reflect on your own life through Charles Schulz's PEANUTS characters. Together we will get through this, rebuilding this wonderful community that Charles Schulz called home.

## **Chapter 2 – Keeping the Museum Safe**

To all the members of our Museum family,

I wanted to share with you the process of bringing The Charles M. Schulz Museum and Research Center back to life...

You would all be so proud of the staff as they work diligently to ensure that each step of the restoration process of the Museum's environment, and preparing the art to be hung back in our galleries, is done with the utmost care and professionalism. It has truly been a fascinating process to watch and I wanted to update you, as I know you are as invested in saving Charles Schulz's legacy as we are.

We are currently working on the restoration of the air quality inside the Museum and have 20 blowers throughout the Museum purifying the air. Professional cleaners are coming in to clean the air ducts and the Museum's interior, making it safe for staff and artwork to return to the Museum. The collections staff will then come in and clean the art and reinstall our current exhibitions.



Tentatively, we hope to open in the next two weeks. We appreciate all of your caring and support during this difficult time, and thank you for your understanding while we go through the process of getting the Museum back up and running. We look forward to reopening our doors so we can continue to share the wonderful legacy of Charles Schulz with the world, allowing PEANUTS to continue bringing a touch of humor and humanity into our daily life....

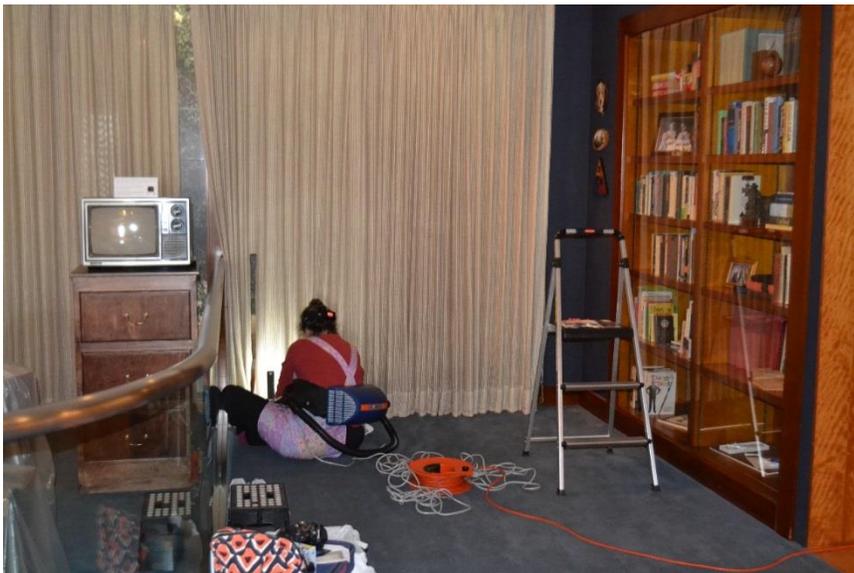
Stay tuned, next week, cleaning the art.

### **Chapter 3 - One Last Step, and We Open!**

The past three weeks have been something that none of us could have anticipated in our own lives, nor that of the Museum. Just as the spirit of Sonoma is strong, demonstrated by the generosity of everyone who has donated money, time, or much needed supplies to help so many families start again, our staff rose to the occasion as well. The staff worked long hours each day to make sure when the Museum opened it would be safe and ready to bring relief and laughter to families once again.

Your concern and genuine interest in the Museum has spirited our staff to bring the Museum back to life with a renewed sense of gratitude and appreciation. The love that surrounds this Museum, Charles Schulz, and all the *PEANUTS* characters is truly amazing.

As you can see in the photo, cleaning took on a new meaning for many of us as we watched the Collection Staff and Conservators carefully assess each exhibition area and piece of art. Every book was inspected, each shelf dusted, and the curtains have never been cleaner...



And we have come full circle in the past few weeks. Charles Schulz's studio chair and drawing table are back in the building and will be installed again in his studio on Friday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>. With this last installation, the Museum will be whole again.



We will open our doors with a renewed faith in the importance of preserving Charles Schulz's legacy for all of us to find joy, laughter, whimsy, wisdom, and wonder in his characters, giving meaning to our daily lives and becoming a source of great memories for years to come.

Welcome back!

Karen Johnson  
Museum Director

## **IMAGES**

If you would like the image in this release to print in a publication, contact Tracey Pugh at [tracey@schulzmuseum.org](mailto:tracey@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

\$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](http://schulzmuseum.org)

Charles M. Schulz Museum & Research Center

2301 Hardies Lane Santa Rosa, CA 95403

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