

“Peanuts Movie” misses the mark



by Carly Travis

I love remixes. When I exercise, my playlist consists of mostly remixes. I think the reason why I love them so much isn't because of their motivating beat but because of the use of old and new.

When Adele's newest tune "Hello" is followed by a Madonna throwback and then an old Justin Timberlake, I get excited. The spontaneity of the music takes my mind off of the mile.

However, some reboots just miss the mark. Often times it's best to leave a good thing untouched, and the new "Peanuts Movie" that just came out is a perfect example why.

I've been a fan of the franchise ever since I was ten and could comprehend its witty and charming sense of humor.

During all major U.S. holidays, I willingly encouraged my family to sit down in front of the TV and watch Charlie Brown, regardless of the number of times we've seen it.

There's so much to love about the art; "Peanuts" essentially paved the way for modern cartooning.

The stories exhibit simplistic lines, sarcastic humor, the inner dialogue of a household pet and a worrisome, bald boy, and characters whose hobbies include "psychiatric help" and playing Beethoven on a miniature piano. It's genius, without trying too hard.

There's also a lot to love about the characters. They don't skimp on a generic personality: there's Pig Pen, the one who doesn't shower; Lucy, the crabby advice-giver, and Peppermint Patty, the sandal wearing baseball champ, whose nickname, given by Marcie, is "sir." The list goes on.

In the 2015 3D animated version of "Peanuts," director Steve Martino preserved the original feeling as best he could.

Given that the original voice actors are mostly dead, they chose to use actual kids, as opposed to adults with kid voices. What surprised me was that the kids even nailed the classic "Peanuts" comedy timing.

Here's where I diverge. The pros that this movie holds is that it opens up a comic, a cult favorite from the early 50s, to the whole new generation.

I appreciated how Craig Schulz (executive producer and son of the late Charles Schulz, creator of "The Peanuts") chose not to put iPhones in the hands of Linus and Rerun (thank god!). They kept the integrity of the

time period. "The Peanuts" were actually created in which by injecting subtle touches like the rotary phone and typewriter.

Although those vintage touches are cute, I still felt like the gang looked phony against an updated background.

The same can be said for other remakes, too. "The Great Gatsby" that came out in 2013 starring Leonardo DiCaprio turned me off for many of the same reasons.

They kept the 1920s fashion, cars, and overall aesthetic intact, but then had to ruin it by injecting upbeat Jay Z, Beyoncé, and Lana Del Rey songs in every scene.

By doing so, they're reaching a younger demographic from the modernizing the classic novel. In my opinion, you just can't have it all. Either go all the way with the vintage appeal or none at all. Half way inbetween the two doesn't work.

Overall, "The Peanuts" was a cute movie. Its throwback terms like "blockhead" and "good grief" reminds us of our favorite characters and their personalities.

I may not understand the complex world of animation, but I felt like they could have done a better job at creating a less than glossy background for Snoopy and friends to bounce around.

Editorial

This just in: your breakfast may be out to kill you

The World Health Organization has recently revealed studies proving that eating processed meat is linked to colorectal cancer. Such processed meats include bacon, sausage, hotdogs, and bologna. The WHO also announced that red meats are "probably carcinogenic" to people.

Consuming 1.8 ounces, (the equivalent to three pieces of bacon) of these processed meats per day can increase one's chances of colorectal cancer by 18%. This puts processed and smoked meats into the same category as smoking tobacco and exposure to asbestos. Considering that the chances of colorectal cancer are relatively low to begin with, the increased chance simply changes your odds of developing it from 5% to 6%. Due to this, most people won't make significant changes to their diets to avoid these processed meats.

There are many things that are recognized as bad for our health, yet we continue to indulge in them. When coffee was evaluated in 1991 by the WHO, scientists found evidence that it may cause bladder cancer. Regardless of this fact, many people still enjoy their coffee on a regular basis. Everyone knows that ultraviolet radiation is a proven carcinogenic, yet people still lay out in the sun and go to tanning beds all the time. In 2010, research revealed that working a night shift interferes with the body's natural circadian rhythm, and is a probable carcinogen, yet there are still 24 hour McDonald's.

In the grand scheme of things, people don't want to change the way that they live their lives, even if doing so helps them avoid potential risks. It is just too much of an inconvenience. Besides, people often have the mentality, "It won't happen to me." With a low percentage risk, it is easy to write something off as unlikely, and continue on with your normal life.

To help plan out your next Sunday breakfast, one piece of cooked bacon is about .6 ounces. So, if you're planning on indulging in a couple pieces, you're having a dose of about 1.8 oz. of carcinogens. The serious risk is only for when you have these three pieces of bacon on a daily basis. So, assuming you're not eating bacon every morning on the way to school, you should be fine.

Even if you do manage to avoid getting cancer from bacon, there are tons of other carcinogens that might catch you off guard. Lately, there are endless products classified from Category 2B ("possibly carcinogenic") to Category 1 ("carcinogenic"). If you seriously want to avoid any possible carcinogens, you should probably stay away from coffee, aloe vera, pickled vegetables, carbon black (tires and rubber), alcohol, antiperspirants, magenta dyes, and salted fish, just for starters. Let's be real, what doesn't cause cancer these days?

Perhaps the best approach is to simply continue living your life the way you want, unless you've been eating excessive amounts of bacon, sausage, and hot dogs (in which case you should try to cut down a bit).

Visiting schools provides a better sense of home



by Camille Baer

I can understand why teachers are often frustrated by the fact that the bulk of their senior students are missing school for visiting colleges. Most seniors think it will help them get into their dream school.

While it may seem foolish to think that simply going on a school tour will be the cherry to "seal the admission deal," I believe it helps to classify the student's interest in their school of choice.

Aside from the logistical aspect of visiting schools, it's important to visit as many colleges you're interested in as possible.

You'll never know how you truly feel about a school until you have the chance to walk around the campus and experience what it has to offer.

I'm not advocating skipping

a bunch of school, trust me, but I am encouraging the opportunity to explore and learn what you like and what you don't about each school you visit or apply to.

Visiting universities not only puts you on their radar; it also allows you to figure out what you appreciate most in a school.

Perhaps these nuances might tip you towards one school over another, but you'd never know that until you've actually spent time on the campus.

You can always read about a college on their website, or you can listen to a representative speak about all its "amazing and inspirational qualities to help you prosper and thrive"—(we've all heard this same spiel before), or you can have an interview with a liaison to learn more about the specifications of the school.

However, none address the most important fact, and that's whether you see yourself living on that campus for four years. With such a huge life decision, you want to make sure you've made one that suits your best interests at heart.

It's easy to love a school on

paper—amazing academics, ideal population of undergrads, plenty of fun activities constantly occurring (or whatever else you value in a school)—but without ever visiting, you'll never experience that feeling.

This infamous feeling, or "aha" moment, is hard to explain, but upon arrival, you know deep down it's where you're meant to be (I'm assuming it's similar to realizing trig functions are no longer jibberish).

You'll never know whether there's a school out there that better fits your personality.

The most important part is knowing that you love, and belong, to the school you're going to attend.

After all, this place will become your home, and you want to feel comfortable and relaxed on the campus.

No PowerPoint, brochure, or alumni interview can offer the same experience that visiting the campus is able to achieve.

You have to be able to figure it out on your own, and it starts with a visit.



Gannon Lee

Letter to the editor:

"I got a chance to read the New Trier News, Newspaper. As a parent of a freshman student, I am disappointed that you do not promote other views besides your obvious liberal and progressive storylines."
- Neil Hernandez

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