

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Polasek Museum Announces Annual Stroke Awareness Event – May 11, 2017**  
***Health Screenings, Hands-on Art, Sculpture Garden Tour, and Documentary Film Screening***

WINTER PARK, Fla. – In collaboration with local stroke advocacy nonprofit *Bcenter*, the Polasek Museum will host its annual stroke awareness event on May 11, 2017 during National Stroke Awareness Month. The museum’s founder, Albin Polasek, suffered a debilitating stroke shortly after moving to Winter Park in 1950, yet continued to create monumental works of art until his death in 1965. The day’s events include:

**9 a.m. to 5 p.m. – Health Screenings in the Capen House**

Simple, non-invasive, affordable, accurate vascular health screenings will be offered by Life Line Screening’s professional Ultrasound Medical Team. Participants can find out if they are at risk of stroke with a dramatically discounted screening package of only \$149. Pre-registration is necessary by calling 1-888-653-6441, visit [lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle](http://lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle), or text the word “circle” to 797979.

**10 a.m. to 4 p.m. – Art Therapy in the Gardens with Stroke Nonprofit *Bcenter***

With paid admission to the museum, visitors will be able to meet with representatives from the *Bcenter* and the organization’s founder, Valerie Greene, and take part in an art therapy watercolor activity in the gardens. All ages and abilities are welcome to participate.

**6:15 to 6:45 p.m. – Sculpture Garden Tour of Polasek’s “Post Stroke” Works**

Polasek Museum Curator Rachel Frisby will lead a free sculpture tour of Polasek’s work that he created after suffering a debilitating stroke that left him paralyzed and wheelchair-bound.

**7 to 8 p.m. – Documentary Film Screening of *9000 Needles* in Capen House**

Free documentary film screening of *9000 Needles* directed by Doug Dearth, a 2011 film about a 40-year-old successful businessman, loving husband, father of three, and champion bodybuilder who suffered a devastating stroke. Limited seating; pre-register at [polasek.org/museumevents](http://polasek.org/museumevents)

**About the Albin Polasek Museum & Sculpture Gardens:** Founded in 1961, the Albin Polasek Museum & Sculpture Gardens features guided tours of the world-renowned Czech-American sculptor’s home and studio, his exquisite works of art, and serene gardens as well as rotating gallery exhibits, educational programming, and the restored 1885 Capen House. The Polasek Museum also hosts the annual Winter Park Paint Out, a week-long festival that brings acclaimed *plein air* artists to Central Florida, making Winter Park a destination for art collectors as well as an educational hub with free art demos throughout the week.

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