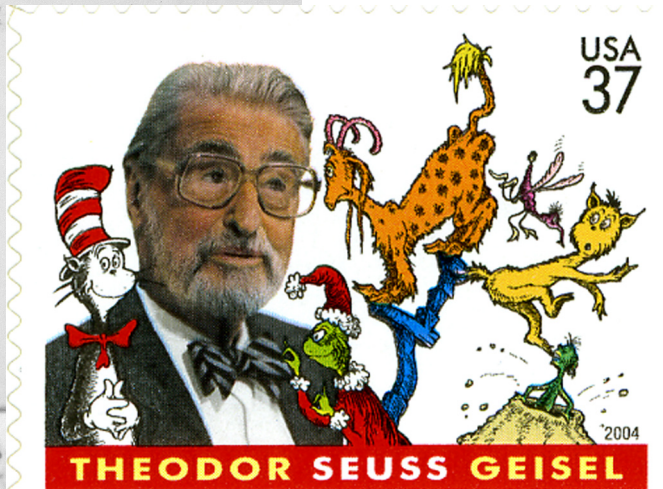
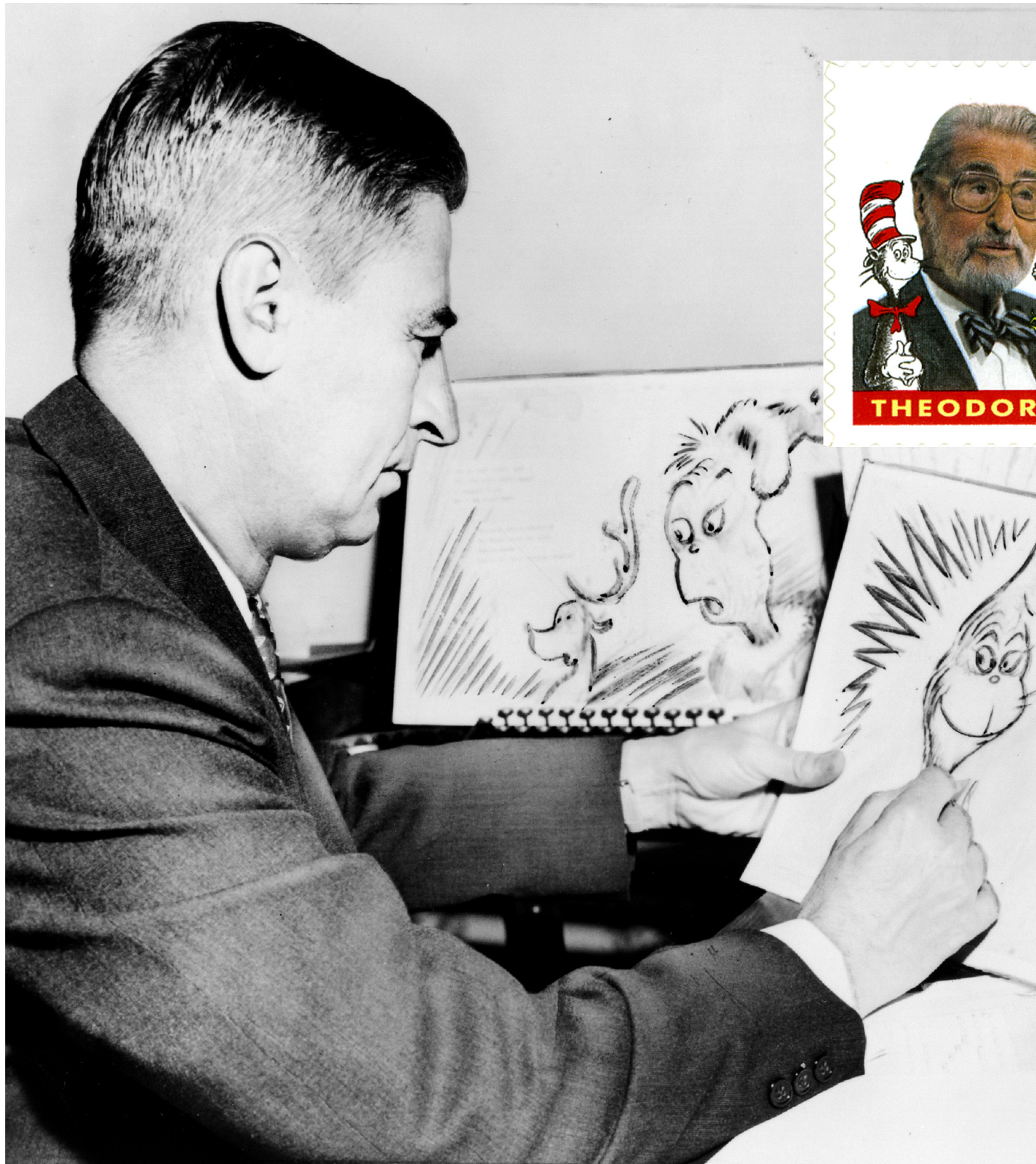


Theodor Seuss Geisel

Author, artist (1904–1991)



The stamp features a color photograph of Geisel taken in 1987. In the stamp design Geisel is surrounded by his illustrations of six characters from his books.

Theodor Seuss “Ted” Geisel, better known to the world as the beloved Dr. Seuss, was born in Springfield, Massachusetts, and attended Dartmouth College, where he became editor-in-chief of the *Jack-O-Lantern*, Dartmouth’s humor magazine. Although his tenure as editor ended prematurely when Ted and his friends were caught throwing a drinking party during Prohibition, he continued to contribute to the magazine, signing his work “Seuss.”

After Dartmouth, Ted briefly attended Oxford University where he met his first wife, Helen Palmer, who also became a children’s author and book editor. After returning to the States, Ted pursued a career as a cartoonist. His drawings appeared in several magazines but the bulk of his activity was working on ad campaigns for Standard Oil. The first book he both wrote and illustrated, *And to Think That I Saw It on Mulberry Street*, was rejected 27 times before being published by Vanguard Press in 1937.

The Cat in the Hat, perhaps the defining book of Ted’s career, developed as part of a unique joint venture between Houghton Mifflin (Vanguard Press) and Random House. With its release in 1954, Ted became the leading children’s book author and illustrator. Five years earlier, a Random editor had rejected his book on how to write for children, commenting, “Some of them would feel an author-artist of picture books could hardly qualify as an expert in the field of juvenile writing.”

After Ted’s first wife died in 1967, he married an old friend, Audrey Stone Geisel, who not only influenced his later books, but now guards his legacy as the president of Dr. Seuss Enterprises.

At the time of his death near La Jolla, California, Ted had written and illustrated 44 children’s books, including such all-time favorites as *Green Eggs and Ham*, *Oh, the Places You’ll Go*, *Fox in Socks*, and *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*. His books had been translated into more than 15 languages with sales of over 200 million copies. Besides the books, his works have provided the source for eleven children’s television specials, a Broadway musical, and a feature-length motion picture. His honors included two Academy awards, two Emmy awards, a Peabody award and the Pulitzer Prize.