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Contact: Merissa Blum, 215-409-6645
mblum@constitutioncenter.org

NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER QUARTERLY EVENTS CALENDAR, APRIL – JUNE 2017

Philadelphia, PA (Thursday, March 30, 2017) – Upcoming highlights at the National Constitution Center include the Center’s third annual Freedom Day symposium, a full day of Stripes and Stars Festival programming, and two new exhibits—a rare documents gallery showcasing five priceless drafts of the U.S. Constitution and an exhibit on Chief Justice John Marshall.

The Constitution Center also announced its spring/summer lineup of *America’s Town Hall* programs featuring the timely constitutional conversations uniting thought leaders from all sides of the debate. Featured guests include U.S. Senator Mike Lee, top conservative commentator David Horowitz, ACLU President Susan Herman, and Pulitzer Prize-winning columnist George F. Will. Topics include Judge Gorsuch’s Supreme Court nomination, the rise of “fake news,” Madison’s vision of freedom, *Loving v. Virginia*, the future of Congress, and the Constitution and economic equality.

The National Constitution Center is located at 525 Arch Street on Philadelphia’s Independence Mall. The Center is open 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Mondays through Saturdays and from noon to 5 p.m. on Sundays.

PLEASE NOTE:

- All American Celebration, Thursday, June 29, through Saturday, July 1 – **Extended museum hours, 9:30 a.m. – 8 p.m.**
- All American Celebration, Sunday, July 2 – **Extended museum hours, 9:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.**

General admission to the Constitution Center includes the Center’s main exhibit, the live production of *Freedom Rising* in the all-new Sidney Kimmel Theater, the George H.W. Bush gallery featuring a rare copy of the Bill of Rights and both of the Center’s exhibits opening in May, *American Treasures: Documenting the Nation’s Founding* and *John Marshall: Patriot, Statesman, Chief Justice*.

Visitors can add the feature exhibit *American Spirits: The Rise and Fall of Prohibition* to their visit for an additional \$3. *American Spirits: The Rise and Fall of Prohibition* takes visitors back in time to the dawn of the temperance movement, through the Roaring ’20s, and to the unprecedented repeal of a constitutional amendment.

April Events**[Living News Spring 2017](#)**

Available between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m. daily, Monday, March 27 – Friday, June 2
*Free with general admission, group reservations recommended. *Includes special educator resources.*
Featuring three engaging actors who play multiple roles, *Living News* introduces controversial constitutional issues and encourages the students explore the Constitution’s relevance in their own lives. This dynamic, 25-minute theatrical performance incorporates video, contemporary music and current news broadcasts, and brings the action right up to the audience. Following the performance, students engage in dialogue about these timely issues along with the museum’s education staff.

[Economic Equality and the Constitution](#)

6:30 p.m., Thursday, April 6

Free for 1787 Society Members • \$10 Members, teachers & students • \$18 Non-Members

Barry Lynn of New America and **Ganesh Sitaraman**, author of *The Crisis of the Middle-Class Constitution* and former counsel to Elizabeth Warren, explore how the Constitution informs our current debates about income inequality, monopolies, and more. Includes book sale.

[100 Years Later: America in World War I](#)

12 p.m., Wednesday, April 12

Free for Members • \$5 Teachers & students • \$8 Non-Members

On April 6, 1917, the United States declared war against Germany, catapulting the nation into World War I. **Brian Balogh**, history professor at the University of Virginia, **Will Englund**, author of *March 1917*, and **Michael Kazin**, author of *War Against War*, come together 100 years later to discuss the impact of the war at home. Includes book sale.

[Spring Break Programming](#)

Regular museum hours, Wednesday, April 12 – Wednesday, April 19

Programming free with general admission

Visitors can learn about our nation's history while participating in a variety of family-friendly programs and activities.

[Freedom Day](#)

9:30 a.m. – 5 p.m., Thursday, April 13

Programming free with general admission

Visitors of all ages can celebrate Freedom Day at the National Constitution Center by participating in a variety of special programs and activities throughout the day. Visit constitutioncenter.org/freedom-day for more information and to learn how to participate in the classroom, on campus, or in your community.

[Third Annual Freedom Day Symposium](#)

4:30 – 7:30 p.m., Thursday, April 13

Invitation-only with limited seating for Members

In conjunction with the launch of the Constitution Center's bipartisan commission *A Madisonian Constitution for All*, this year's symposium explores what James Madison and the Framers would think of today's presidency, Congress, courts, and media and how we can resurrect Madisonian values today. The event features a blockbuster lineup, including Pulitzer Prize-winning columnist **George F. Will**, ACLU President **Susan N. Herman**, and New York Times Co. CEO **Mark Thompson**.

[Alex's Lemonade Stand Family Festival](#)

9:30 a.m. – 5 p.m., Saturday, April 15

Free admission for youth (6-18); \$14.50 for adults, 50% of all proceeds will be donated to Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation for childhood cancer research.

The National Constitution Center has teamed up with Alex's Lemonade Stand Foundation (ALSF) and Northwestern Mutual to host a Spring Family Festival in the heart of Old City Philadelphia. Programs and activities will include outdoor festivities as well as a wide array of kid-friendly and lemonade stand-themed activities throughout the museum. Childhood Cancer Hero Families who

dedicate their time to ALSF in an effort to raise awareness and funds for childhood cancer research will be honored throughout the day. *The event is generously underwritten by Northwestern Mutual.*

Tax Day

9:30 a.m. – 5 p.m., Monday, April 17

Programming free with general admission

Visitors to the National Constitution Center on Tax Day can learn about the history and significance of taxation, participate in interactive shows, and make piggy banks and other handy crafts.

The Next Justice: How Neil Gorsuch Could Shape the Supreme Court

6:30 p.m., Thursday, April 20

Free for 1787 Society Members • \$10 Members, teachers & students • \$18 Non-Members

Joan Biskupic of Reuters News, **Brianne Gorod** of the Constitutional Accountability Center, and **Ilya Shapiro** of the Cato Institute discuss the judge’s record and his potential to shape the Court — and constitutional law — for decades to come.

Earth Day

9:30 a.m. – 5 p.m., Saturday, April 22

Programming free with general admission

Visitors can explore how the Founding Fathers were going green in the 18th Century while celebrating Earth Day at the National Constitution Center. Programs include hands on workshops and engaging programs and games.

One-Day Teacher Workshop: Philly in the Founding Era

9 a.m. – 4 p.m., Saturday, April 29

\$40

(7) NJ or PA professional development credit hours

Teachers can join educators from the Philadelphia Museum of Art and the National Constitution Center to explore teaching with primary sources. Critically evaluating objects, documents, and artworks teaches students important skills such as using evidence to support interpretation and identifying point-of-view. Sessions at both museums and a tour of historic Old City provide a diversity of approaches to address an essential question: “How do primary sources help us understand American identity?”

More information about this workshop and registration can be found [here](#).

May Events

Defining Truth in Modern Politics

6:30 p.m., Monday, May 1

Free for 1787 Society Members • \$10 Members, teachers & students • \$18 Non-Members

The rise of “fake news,” the growth of political polarization, and the fracturing of the media have all contributed to a troubling phenomenon: increasingly, citizens are asserting their own “truths.” Experts including, **Susan Glasser** of *POLITICO*, **Glenn Kessler** of *The Washington Post*, and Brian **Stelter** of CNN, come together to take stock of the problem and suggest solutions.

Exhibit Opening: American Treasures: Documenting the Nation’s Founding

Regular museum hours, Thursday, May 4

Free with general admission

The National Constitution Center presents ***American Treasures: Documenting the Nation's Founding***, featuring five priceless drafts of the U.S. Constitution, including Pennsylvania delegate James Wilson's own handwritten drafts.

Floyd Abrams: The Soul of the First Amendment

12 p.m., Monday, May 8

Free for Members • \$5 Teachers & students • \$8 Non-Members

Floyd Abrams, celebrated First Amendment lawyer, discusses his new book, *The Soul of the First Amendment*, and examines the degree to which American law protects free speech more often, more intensely, and more controversially than anywhere else in the world. Includes book sale.

Dream Flag Festival

10 a.m. – 2 p.m., Saturday, May 13

Free, registration recommended

Inspired by the poetry of Langston Hughes and the tradition of Nepalese Buddhist prayer flags, [The Dream Flag Project®](#) is an annual poetry/art/community-connection project for students in kindergarten to twelfth grade. For more information please email info@dreamflags.org

David Horowitz: President Trump's Agenda

6:30 p.m., Tuesday, May 16

Free for 1787 Society Members • \$10 Members, teachers & students • \$18 Non-Members

David Horowitz, one of the nation's foremost conservative commentators and a mentor to many of Donald Trump's key advisers, unveils his new book, *Big Agenda* — an assessment of the challenges the new president faces and a road map for an agenda that address them. Includes book sale.

Carol Berkin: The Crises of the 1790's and the Birth of American Nationalism

12 p.m., Thursday, May 18

Free for Members • \$5 Teachers & students • \$8 Non-Members

Carol Berkin, professor of history at City University of New York, discusses her new book, *A Sovereign People*, and explores how George Washington, Alexander Hamilton, and John Adams navigated the nation through four major crises and caused the first stirrings of American nationalism. Includes book sale.

Exhibit Opening: John Marshall: Patriot, Statesman, Chief Justice

Regular museum hours, Thursday, May 25

Free with general admission

The National Constitution Center presents ***John Marshall: Patriot, Statesman, Chief Justice***, an exhibit that explores Chief Justice John Marshall's roles within the early Republic, including his life as a soldier, lawyer, statesman, and Chief Justice.

Memorial Day Weekend

Regular museum hours, Saturday, May 27 – Monday, May 29

Programming free with general admission

The National Constitution Center will honor America's fallen military heroes over Memorial Day Weekend, Saturday, May 27 through Monday, May 29. Visitors can participate in a variety of family-friendly programs and activities including flag etiquette and flag folding workshops, Thank-A-Vet Postcards, arts and craft activities, and interactive shows.

Mike Lee: The Forgotten Founders Who Fought Big Government

1 p.m., Wednesday, May 31

Free for Members • \$5 Teachers & students • \$8 Non-Members

Senator **Mike Lee**, Constitution Center honorary congressional visiting scholar and co-chair of the *A Madisonian Constitution for All* Commission, tells the story of the lesser-known Founders whose warnings about the dangers of an all-powerful federal government helped shaped our Constitution. Includes book sale.

June Events

Traveling America's Town Hall Program – Intelligence Squared U.S. Debate: Tech Companies Should Be Required to Help Law Enforcement Execute Search Warrants to Access Customer Data

6 – 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, June 6 –San Francisco Jazz Center, 201 Franklin Street (at Fell), San Francisco, CA
\$30 General public • \$15 Seniors • \$10 Students

Tech companies promise to protect data from prying eyes. But should that promise yield to law enforcement and national security? Explore privacy, technology, and the Constitution in San Francisco with this Intelligence Squared Debate. For more information and a list of participants, [click here](#). Presented in partnership with *Intelligence Squared U.S. Debates* and sponsored by the *Templeton Foundation*.

The Loving Story Film Screening

6:30 – 8:30 p.m., Thursday, June 8

Free for 1787 Society Members • \$10 Members, teachers & students • \$18 Non-Members

In commemoration of the 50th anniversary of *Loving v. Virginia*, the Constitution Center presents a screening of the award-winning HBO documentary *The Loving Story* — the definitive account of the landmark 1967 Supreme Court decision that legalized interracial marriage. *This film is courtesy of Icarus Films and directed by Nancy Buirski.*

Stripes and Stars Festival

9:30 a.m. – 5 p.m., Wednesday, June 14

\$5 admission, courtesy of Macy's

From star-spangled banners to five-star generals, Philadelphia celebrates the shared birthday of two of our country's greatest institutions—the American flag and the U.S. Army. The Stripes and Stars Festival takes place annually on June 14 at locations throughout Independence National Historical Park and Historic Philadelphia, including Independence Hall, Betsy Ross House, and the National Constitution Center. Events include flag raising ceremonies, a patriotic parade, giant flag folding demonstrations, and a moving naturalization ceremony.

Disability Pride Celebration

10 a.m. – 12 p.m. at the Constitution Center, after 12 p.m. at Dilworth Plaza, Saturday, June 17

Free

On Saturday, June 17, the National Constitution Center will participate in Philadelphia's city-wide Disability Pride Celebration. The wheel chair of Justin Dart, the American activist who advocated for people with disabilities, and helped pass the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, will be on display in the Center's main lobby, where it will be available to view for free. For more information and a full agenda visit <https://www.facebook.com/DisabilityPridePhiladelphia>.

What Happened to Congress?

6:30 p.m., Monday, June 19

Free for 1787 Society Members • \$10 Members, teachers & students • \$18 Non-Members

Whether by executive overreach or internal dysfunction, Congress appears to have given up some of its power. **Josh Chafetz**, author of *Congress's Constitution*, **Carl Hulse**, chief Washington correspondent of *The New York Times*, and **David Mayhew**, author of *The Imprint of Congress*, discuss why and what, if anything, Congress can do to take its power back. Includes book sale.

John Avlon: Washington's Warning to Future Generations

12 p.m., Wednesday, June 21

Free for Members • \$5 Teachers & students • \$8 Non-Members

John Avlon, editor-in-chief of *The Daily Beast*, discusses the first president's momentous and prescient farewell address to the nation and how the address could help reunite our America through the lessons rooted in Washington's experience. Includes book sale.

Sidney Blumenthal: The Political Life of Lincoln, 1849-1856

12 p.m., Wednesday, June 28

Free for Members • \$5 Teachers & students • \$8 Non-Members

Sidney Blumenthal, author of *Wrestling With His Angel*, brings Lincoln from the wilderness to the peak of his career as he takes control of the nation's most profound spiritual crisis — slavery — and enters the battle for the nation's soul. Includes book sale.

An All American Celebration

Extended museum hours, 9:30 a.m. – 8 p.m., Thursday, June 29, through Saturday, July 1

Extended museum hours, 9:30 a.m. – 5 p.m., Sunday, July 2

Regular museum hours, Monday, July 3, through Tuesday, July 4

The National Constitution Center will offer an array of patriotic festivities over Independence Week, Thursday, June 29, through Tuesday, July 4, in celebration of freedom and America's independence. Visitors can participate in a variety of family-friendly programs and activities including flag etiquette and flag folding workshops, arts and craft activities, and interactive shows. [Click here](#) for additional programming information and free days offered.

Please note: All programs are subject to change. Please call 215-409-6700 or visit constitutioncenter.org for the most up-to-date program information.

Feature Exhibits

[Powers of the President](#)

Through May 7, 2017

Powers of the President explores the nature of executive power under the Constitution, and how various presidents have exercised it over time. Discover both key actions by well-known presidents as well as the constitutional legacies of lesser known “forgotten presidents,” and the impact that they all have had while holding our nation's highest office.

[American Spirits: The Rise and Fall of Prohibition](#)

Through July 16, 2017

Created by the National Constitution Center, *American Spirits: The Rise and Fall of Prohibition* uses a mix of artifacts and engaging visitor activities to take you back in time to the dawn of the temperance movement, through the Roaring '20s, and to the unprecedented repeal of a constitutional amendment.

American Treasures: Documenting the Nation's Founding

May 4 through May 5, 2019

American Treasures: Documenting the Nation's Founding illuminates the founding era through priceless drafts of the U.S. Constitution, including Pennsylvania delegate James Wilson's own handwritten drafts. The exhibit provides an intimate look at the path the Framers took to create our founding document. Created by the National Constitution Center in partnership with the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, this exhibit explores the momentous constitutional events in this early period of American history. It also includes a display of rare newspaper printings of the text of the Bill of Rights as it made its way through Congress, showcasing how James Madison secured the Constitution's first 10 amendments in 1791. For tickets, visit constitutioncenter.org.

John Marshall: Patriot, Statesman, Chief Justice

May 25 through December 31, 2017

John Marshall: Patriot, Statesman, Chief Justice highlights the character and constitutional legacy of the nation's fourth chief justice by focusing on his roles within the early Republic. Created by the National Constitution Center in partnership with The John Marshall Foundation, this exhibit explores Marshall's influential roles as a soldier, lawyer, statesman, and ultimately leader of the nation's highest court through rare artifacts, personal items, and historic documents. For tickets, visit constitutioncenter.org.

Constituting Liberty: From the Declaration to the Bill of Rights

Through December 2017

The National Constitution Center is proud to display one of the 12 surviving copies of the Bill of Rights. The Museum of We the People is the first institution in Pennsylvania to exhibit this historic document to the general public. It has been preserved as part of The New York Public Library's renowned research collection for over 100 years. The Bill of Rights is displayed alongside a first edition Stone Engraving of the Declaration of Independence and a rare copy of the first public printing of the U.S. Constitution in the brand new George H.W. Bush Gallery.

Ticket Information – NEW as of January 2, 2017

General Admission:

Adults \$14.50; Youth (6-18) \$11; Students w/ID and Seniors \$13. Active military personnel and children ages 5 and under are free.

Feature Exhibit: *American Spirits: The Rise and Fall of Prohibition* March 3 – July 16, 2017

Adults \$17.50; Youth (6-18) \$14; Students w/ID and Seniors \$16. Includes general admission to the National Constitution Center. Free for members. Active military personnel and children ages 5 and under are free.

About the National Constitution Center

The National Constitution Center in Philadelphia inspires citizenship as the only place where people across America and around the world can come together to learn about, debate, and celebrate the greatest vision of human freedom in history, the U.S. Constitution. A private, nonprofit organization, the

Center serves as America's leading platform for constitutional education and debate, fulfilling its Congressional charter "to disseminate information about the U.S. Constitution on a nonpartisan basis." As the **Museum of We the People**, the Center brings the Constitution to life for visitors of all ages through interactive programs and exhibits. As **America's Town Hall**, the Center brings the leading conservative and liberal thought leaders together to debate the Constitution on all media platforms. As a center for **Civic Education**, the Center delivers the best educational programs and online resources that inspire, excite, and engage citizens about the U.S. Constitution. For more information, call 215-409-6700 or visit constitutioncenter.org.

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