

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER QUARTERLY EVENTS CALENDAR, OCTOBER – DECEMBER 2017

Philadelphia, PA (October 2, 2017) – The 29th Annual Liberty Medal Ceremony honoring U.S. Senator John McCain, blockbuster *America’s Town Hall* programs, and civic holiday celebrations honoring veterans and the anniversary of the Bill of Rights, are all part of the National Constitution Center’s event plans through the end of 2017.

New this fall, the National Constitution Center will offer Pennsylvania Continuing Legal Education credit online and at select in-person Town Hall programs. Stay tuned for more information at constitutioncenter.org.

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:

- Liberty Medal Ceremony, Monday, October 16 – **Museum CLOSED to the general public**
- Private Event, Wednesday, November 22 – **Museum CLOSED to the general public**
- Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 23 – **CLOSED**
- Black Friday, Friday, November 24 – **Extended hours 9:30 a.m. – 6 p.m.**
- Christmas Eve, Sunday, December 24 – **CLOSED**
- Christmas Day, Monday, December 25 – **CLOSED**
- New Year’s Eve, Sunday, December 31 – **CLOSED**
- New Year’s Day, Monday, January 1 – **CLOSED**

General admission includes access to the National Constitution Center’s interactive main exhibit, the signature multimedia, theatrical performance of *Freedom Rising* presented in the Sidney Kimmel Theater, the iconic *Signers’ Hall*, as well as the Center’s feature exhibits, including *American Treasures: Documenting the Nation’s Founding*, an intimate look at the rarest early drafts of the U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights; *John Marshall: Patriot, Statesman, Chief Justice*, which explores Marshall’s character, constitutional legacy, and the influential roles he played in the early Republic; and *Constituting Liberty: From the Declaration to the Bill of Rights*, showcasing one of 12 original, surviving copies of the Bill of Rights.

October Events

[Jeb Bush: 14th Annual John M. Templeton, Jr. Lecture](#)

6:30 – 8 p.m., Monday, October 2

Free with Membership

Governor **Jeb Bush**, former Chair of the National Constitution Center, discusses the state of education in America.

Members-only Guided Tour: American Treasures: Documenting the Nation's Founding

11 a.m., Friday, October 6

Free with Membership

National Constitution Center Members can see the rarest early drafts of the U.S. Constitution displayed together for the first time, including Pennsylvania delegate James Wilson's own handwritten drafts, and get an intimate look at the path the Framers took to create our founding document on a private tour of the Center's new exhibit and gallery.

The Rise of Populism Abroad

12 p.m., Friday, October 6

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

Mark Gitenstein, former U.S. Ambassador to Romania, **Edward Luce**, author of *The Retreat of Western Liberalism*, and **Jan-Werner Müller**, author of *What Is Populism?*, explore the growing influence of populism around the world and what it means for constitutionalism and the rule of law. Includes book sale. *This program has been approved for 1.0 credit of MCLE in Pennsylvania.*

2017 Liberty Medal Ceremony

7 p.m., Monday, October 16

Sponsorships and paid tickets of all levels are currently available for purchase [here](#).

The National Constitution Center will award its annual Liberty Medal to U.S. Senator **John McCain** for his lifetime of sacrifice and service. Vice President **Joe Biden**, Chairman of the National Constitution Center's Board of Trustees, will present the award to his longtime friend during the 29th Annual Liberty Medal Ceremony on October 16 at 7 p.m. on Independence Mall in Philadelphia.

PLEASE NOTE: Credentials are required for press entry to this event. Please contact Merissa Blum at 215-409-6645 or mblum@constitutioncenter.org for more information.

Bob Schieffer: Finding Truth in Today's Deluge of News

6:30 p.m., Tuesday, October 17

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

Discussing his new book, *Overload*, legendary journalist **Bob Schieffer** provides an inside look at the changing role of media and asks whether today's citizens are more informed or just overwhelmed. Includes book sale.

Khizr Khan: An American Family

6:30 p.m., Wednesday, October 25

Free for 1787 Society Members • \$20 Members, teachers & students • \$28 Non-Members

Muslim-American Gold Star father and 2016 DNC speaker **Khizr Khan** unveils his new memoir, *An American Family*, and discusses his family's pursuit of the American dream and the importance of the Declaration of Independence and U.S. Constitution. Includes copy of new book.

Traveling America's Town Hall Program: The Future of Digital Privacy: Does the Fourth Amendment Prohibit the Warrantless Search of Our Digital Footprints?

Thursday, October 26 – National Press Club, Washington, DC

Orin Kerr of GW Law and **Alex Abdo** of the Knight First Amendment Institute will debate whether warrantless searches and seizures of cellphone records violate the Fourth Amendment. **Jeffrey Rosen** will moderate this debate co-sponsored by the American Constitution Society and The Federalist Society and presented with the generous support of the Bernstein Family Foundation.

[Boy Scout and Cub Scout Day](#)

8 a.m. – 3 p.m., Merit Badge Counseling: 1 p.m. – 5 p.m., Saturday, October 28

Scouts \$14, Adults \$12, one free chaperon for every 10 scouts

At the National Constitution Center, scouts can enjoy an action-packed day learning about American history and the importance of good citizenship—all while meeting merit badge or adventure requirements. All scouts will receive a National Constitution Center Scout Day Fun Patch.

[Members-only Guided Tour: American Treasures: Documenting the Nation's Founding](#)

11 a.m., Monday, October 30

Free with Membership

National Constitution Center Members can see the rarest early drafts of the U.S. Constitution displayed together for the first time, including Pennsylvania delegate James Wilson's own handwritten drafts, and get an intimate look at the path the Framers took to create our founding document on a private tour of the Center's new exhibit and gallery.

[Edward Ayers: The Civil War and Emancipation in the Heart of America](#)

12 p.m., Monday, October 30

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

Leading Civil War historian **Edward Ayers** provides a fresh history of two astounding events at the crux of America's history — the destruction of the most powerful system of slavery in the modern world, followed by a political reconstruction establishing the fundamental rights of citizens for formerly enslaved people. Includes book sale. *This program has been approved for 1.0 credit of MCLE in Pennsylvania.*

[November Events](#)

[Girl Scout Day](#)

8 a.m. – 3 p.m., Saturday, November 4

Scouts \$14, Adults \$12, one free chaperon for every 10 scouts

Girl Scouts can participate in fun and engaging programs designed to meet requirements for their Citizen Legacy Badge, as well as select Journey requirements. Plus, the museum's education staff takes girl scouts on a journey back in time to learn about our nation's greatest women heroes, from suffragists to Supreme Court Justices. Girl Scouts of all ages can participate in women's history programs, including interactive trivia games, exclusive exhibits, and a one-of-a-kind music video workshop. All scouts will receive a National Constitution Center Scout Day Fun Patch.

[Cass Sunstein: A Citizen's Guide to Impeachment](#)

6:30 p.m., Monday, November 6

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

Despite intense interest in the subject, the constitutional process of impeachment is widely misunderstood. **Cass Sunstein**, former White House advisor and author of *Impeachment: A Citizen's Guide*, identifies the most common misconceptions and illuminates the constitutional design behind the process. Includes book sale.

[Members-only Guided Tour: John Marshall: Patriot, Statesman, Chief Justice](#)

11 a.m., Tuesday, November 7

Free with Membership

National Constitution Center Members can get to know Chief Justice John Marshall – a hero of the U.S. Constitution – and explore Marshall’s character, constitutional legacy, and the influential roles he played in the early Republic with a private tour of John Marshall, open now through December 31.

[Hendrick Meijer: Arthur Vandenberg](#)

12 p.m., Tuesday, November 7

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

Hendrik Meijer discusses his biography, *Arthur Vandenberg*, on the mid-20th century Michigan senator who evolved from America’s leading isolationist into its leading internationalist and spearheaded coalitions that continue to form the foundation of American foreign and domestic policy today. Includes book sale.

Traveling America’s Town Hall Program: Does the First Amendment Protect Hate Speech?

Wednesday, November 8 – Chicago Cultural Center, Chicago, IL

Jeffrey Rosen will moderate a discussion among First Amendment experts – including **Geoffrey Stone** of the University of Chicago Law School and **Khaled A. Beydoun** of the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law – about whether or not the First Amendment protects hate speech on campus and online. This debate is co-sponsored by the American Constitution Society and The Federalist Society and is presented with the generous support of the Stanton Foundation. *More speakers to be announced.

[Veterans Day](#)

Regular museum hours, Saturday, November 11

Free admission, courtesy of Macy’s

In honor of Veterans Day, the National Constitution Center will recognize the dedication and sacrifices of the brave men and women who have answered the Constitution’s call to “provide for the common defense” with free admission, courtesy of Macy’s. Special events include a wreath laying ceremony, patriotic concerts, visitor “chats” with veterans, and engaging civic education programs. At activity stations, guests can write thank you letters to veterans and make patriotic crafts, including star wreaths and poppy pins.

[Franklin Foer: The Existential Threat of Big Tech](#)

6:30 p.m., Wednesday, November 15

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

Franklin Foer, national correspondent for *The Atlantic*, explores how tech platforms like Facebook, Apple, Amazon, and Google have transformed the way we think and produced a new culture of misinformation that is trampling values such as privacy, autonomy, and individuality. Includes book sale.

[Hamilton’s Vision: Federalism, National Authority, and Judicial Review](#)

9-11:45 a.m., Thursday, November 16

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

America’s leading federal judges and scholars discuss the constitutional vision of the rap star of the moment, Hamilton, exploring his views on the scope of presidential, congressional, and judicial power in America. *Presented in partnership with the Federal Judicial Center. This program has been approved for 1.0 credit of MCLE in Pennsylvania.*

Boy Scout and Cub Scout Day

8 a.m. – 3 p.m., Merit Badge Counseling: 1 p.m. – 5 p.m., Saturday, November 18
Scouts \$14, Adults \$12, one free chaperon for every 10 scouts

At the National Constitution Center, scouts can enjoy an action-packed day learning about American history and the importance of good citizenship—all while meeting merit badge or adventure requirements. All scouts will receive a National Constitution Center Scout Day Fun Patch.

Thanksgiving Week Programs

Online: 7 a.m. – 6 p.m., Monday, November 20 – Wednesday, November 22

At the Center: 9:30 a.m. – 6 p.m., Friday, November 24, and regular museum hours, Saturday and Sunday, November 25 – 26

General admission

Teachers and students can view the Center's [Thanksgiving episode](#) of our popular *Constitution Hall Pass* video lesson series, and discover the real story of the first Thanksgiving and how the day became a national holiday during the Civil War. The Center's education staff will be available to chat live with classrooms across the country on Monday, November 20 – Wednesday, November 22, from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. EST. Visit constitutioncenter.org/learn.

Over Thanksgiving Weekend, November 24 – 26, the National Constitution Center will host a variety of family-friendly programs and activities, including arts and crafts, games, and interactive shows. Featured activities include corn husk doll crafts, exhibit tours, and a Thanksgiving Day Show. Beginning November 24, the Center will start to collect school supplies and other items for our Martin Luther King, Jr. Day service projects.

Traveling America's Town Hall Program: Does the First Amendment Protect Hate Speech?

Tuesday, November 28 – The Debate Chamber at Old Parkland, Dallas, TX

Jeffrey Rosen will moderate a debate among First Amendment experts – including **Shannon Gilreath** of Wake Forest University – about whether or not the First Amendment protects hate speech online. This debate is co-sponsored by the American Constitution Society and The Federalist Society and is presented with the generous support of Crow Holdings. *More speakers to be announced.

The Future of Conservatism

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

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

The election of President Donald Trump has scrambled political alliances and raised anew the question of what it means to be a conservative in America. Leading thinkers, including *National Interest* editor **Jacob Heilbrunn** and *New York Times* writer-at-large **Sam Tanenhaus**, discuss the future of American conservatism.

December Events

Emancipation

12 p.m., Tuesday, December 5

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

America's leading Civil War and Reconstruction historians **David Blight**, **Eric Foner**, and **Thavolia Glymph**, explore the meaning of freedom, equality, and emancipation as part of the Constitution Center's celebration of the 150th anniversary of the 14th Amendment to the Constitution. Includes book sale. *This program has been approved for 1.0 credit of MCLE in Pennsylvania.*

[Gerrymandering and the Future of American Democracy](#)

6:30 p.m., Monday, December 11

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

In the *Gill* case this year, the Supreme Court will determine the constitutional future of partisan gerrymandering. Join the scholars and advocates whose arguments are at the heart of the case, including **Erin Murphy** and **Nicholas Stephanopoulos**, to explore whether and how the Constitution might be interpreted to limit partisan gerrymandering and why it matters for American democracy. *Sponsored by John Aglioloro. This program has been approved for 1.0 credit of MCLE in Pennsylvania.*

[Members-only Bill of Rights Day Breakfast](#)

9 a.m., Friday, December 15

Complimentary for 1787 Society Members • \$20 Members

National Constitution Center Members can celebrate Bill of Rights Day at the Center with a breakfast and constitutional conversation featuring Center President and CEO Jeffrey Rosen and constitutional law expert Gerard Magliocca.

[Bill of Rights Day](#)

Regular museum hours, Friday, December 15

\$5 admission

Celebrate the anniversary of the Bill of Rights at the National Constitution Center. Visitors can view a rare, original copy of the historic Bill of Rights and learn about the first ten amendments during interactive games and shows. Plus, take a special tour of *Signers' Hall* to learn about the history of the Bill of Rights and why it was left out of the original U.S. Constitution.

Students and teachers can also join the National Constitution Center online by exploring the [Interactive Constitution](#), viewing our Bill of Rights episodes of [Constitution Hall Pass](#), our award-winning video lesson series, and chatting live with our staff from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. EST. Visit constitutioncenter.org/learn.

Bill of Rights Day Symposium

10 a.m. – 1 p.m., Friday, December 15

Included with museum admission, \$5

- 10 a.m. **Gerard Magliocca:** *How the Bill of Rights Became the Bill of Rights*. Includes book sale.
- 11 a.m. **Noah Feldman:** *The Three Lives of James Madison*. Includes book sale.
- 12 p.m. **Keynote Conversation:** former president of the Newseum **Jeffrey Herbst**, Knight First Amendment Institute Director **Jameel Jaffer**, and Constitution Center President and CEO **Jeffrey Rosen** discuss the state of the First Amendment today.

[Winter Break Programming](#)

Regular museum hours, Tuesday, December 26 – Saturday, December 30, 9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. Sunday, December 31

General admission

'Tis the season to visit the National Constitution Center. Visitors can enjoy a variety of special family-friendly programs and activities, including arts and crafts, games, and interactive shows. Featured activities include colonial dress-up and photo opportunities, military muster demonstrations, and the Growing Up, American Style show.

PLEASE NOTE:

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

Feature Exhibits

[John Marshall: Patriot, Statesman, Chief Justice](#)

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.

[American Treasures: Documenting the Nation's Founding](#)

Now open

American Treasures: Documenting the Nation's Founding illuminates the founding era through the rarest early 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. Among the gallery's many priceless treasures is the very first handwritten draft of the U.S. Constitution and a display of rare newspaper printings of the text of the Bill of Rights. The drafts showcase how James Wilson's original proposals became the U.S. Constitution. Open now. For tickets, visit constitutioncenter.org.

[Constituting Liberty: From the Declaration to the Bill of Rights](#)

Now open

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 George H.W. Bush Gallery.

Ticket Information

General Admission:

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

Membership

Members of the National Constitution Center receive unlimited complimentary Museum admission, complimentary admission for daytime *America's Town Hall* programs, and discounted admission for evening *America's Town Hall* programs. Join online at constitutioncenter.org/membership or by phone at 215-409-6767.

About the National Constitution Center

The [National Constitution Center](https://www.constitutioncenter.org) 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](https://www.constitutioncenter.org).

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