

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER ANNOUNCES SPEAKERS AND TOPICS  
 FOR FALL 2018 AMERICA'S TOWN HALL**

**Topics include presidential leadership, speech on university campuses, Alexander Hamilton, slavery at the nation's Founding, the Suffrage Movement, and campaign finance**

**Guests include Pulitzer Prize-winning historian Doris Kearns Goodwin, presidential historian Michael Beschloss, and former special prosecutor Ken Starr**

Philadelphia, PA (July 10, 2018) – The National Constitution Center today released the fall 2018 lineup for its popular *America's Town Hall* series of constitutional conversations and debates bringing together the best thinkers on the left, right, and center to explore the most important constitutional issues facing our country.

National Constitution Center Members receive early access to *America's Town Hall* programs. Members of the National Constitution Center may reserve their tickets to the Center's fall Town Hall programs starting Tuesday, July 10. Tickets will be made available to the general public on Tuesday, July 17.

**Fall 2018 America's Town Hall Programming:**

**Public Education, the Supreme Court, and the Battle for the American Mind**

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

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

**Justin Driver**, constitutional law scholar and author of *The Schoolhouse Gate: Public Education, the Supreme Court, and the Battle for the American Mind*, provides a provocative account of the role the U.S. Supreme Court has played in defining the rights of students in America's public schools, from race and drugs to religion and free speech. Includes book sale.

**Slavery and Its Opponents at America's Founding**

12 p.m., Wednesday, September 12

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

Acclaimed historian **Sean Wilentz** reconsiders the Founders' debates over slavery and the Constitution as described in his new book, *No Property in Man: Slavery and Antislavery at the Nation's Founding*. Includes book sale.

**Why State Constitutions Matter**

3:30 p.m., Monday, September 17

*Free*

Judge **Jeffrey S. Sutton**, of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit and author of the new book *51 Imperfect Solutions: States and the Making of American Constitutional Law*, explores four constitutional debates — school funding, the exclusionary rule, eugenics, and mandatory flag salutes — to shed light

on the importance of state courts and state constitutions in protecting liberty. Includes book sale.  
*Presented as part of the National Constitution Center's Constitution Day celebration.*

### **The Coddling of the American Mind**

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

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

Are trigger warnings getting in the way of freedom of speech on campus? First Amendment champion **Greg Lukianoff** discusses his new book, *The Coddling of the American Mind: How Good Intentions and Bad Ideas Are Setting Up a Generation for Failure*, and how to preserve free speech in America. Includes book sale.

### **Doris Kearns Goodwin: Leadership in Turbulent Times**

6:30 p.m., Monday, September 24

*Free for 1787 Society Members, \$35 Members, teachers & students, \$45 Non-Members*

Pulitzer Prize-winning historian **Doris Kearns Goodwin** unveils her new book, *Leadership: In Turbulent Times* — a culmination of five decades of acclaimed study in presidential history — comparing the leadership styles of Abraham Lincoln, Theodore Roosevelt, Franklin Roosevelt, and Lyndon Johnson. Admission includes a copy of the book.

### **Michael Beschloss: Presidents of War**

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

*Free for 1787 Society Members, \$25 Members, teachers & students, \$30 Non-Members*

Presidential historian **Michael Beschloss** discusses his new book, *Presidents of War*, exploring presidential war powers and stories of presidents during wartime, from President James Madison and the War of 1812 to recent presidents today. Admission includes a copy of the book.

### **Faith and the Founding: The Bible and the Constitution**

6 – 7:30 p.m., Thursday, October 18

*Free*

**Daniel Dreisbach**, author of *Reading the Bible with the Founding Fathers*, discusses his new book. Then, leading scholars discuss the influence of religion on the Founders and our founding documents. Includes book sale. *In partnership with the Faith and Liberty Discovery Center.*

### **How to Save a Constitutional Democracy**

12 p.m., Monday, October 29

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

Is the United States at risk of a democratic decline? Can our constitutional design prevent democratic backsliding? Drawing on a rich array of international examples, University of Chicago law professors and authors of *How to Save a Constitutional Democracy* **Tom Ginsburg** and **Aziz Z. Huq** show how the Constitution can play a positive role in maintaining a healthy democracy. Includes book sale.

### **Ken Starr: A Memoir of the Clinton Investigation**

6:30 p.m., Monday, November 5

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

Former special prosecutor **Ken Starr** offers his definitive account of one of the most divisive periods in American history in his new book, *Contempt: A Memoir of The Clinton Investigation*. Starr shares his

unique perspective on the investigation that eventually led to the impeachment of President William J. Clinton. Includes book sale.

### **John Marshall: The Man Who Made the Supreme Court**

12 p.m., Wednesday, November 7

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

**Richard Brookhiser**, senior editor of *National Review*, discusses Chief Justice John Marshall's transformation of the Supreme Court into the powerful branch we know today as chronicled in his book, *John Marshall: The Man Who Made the Supreme Court*. Includes book sale.

### **Hamilton: The Man, the Musical, and the Law**

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

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

Through a smash Broadway hit, Alexander Hamilton has reentered the American imagination. Judge **Ketanji Jackson**, Berkeley Law Dean **Erwin Chemerinsky**, Harvard Professor **Rebecca Tushnet**, and attorney **Vanessa Nadal** will discuss what *Hamilton* has to teach us about the Constitution and the law. *Co-sponsored by the Drexel University Thomas R. Kline School of Law.*

### **Should We Amend the Constitution to Authorize Political Spending Limits?**

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

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

America continues to debate the Supreme Court's jurisprudence on political campaign spending. Scholars from across the ideological spectrum discuss whether the First Amendment was meant to prohibit limits on election spending, and whether or not a new constitutional amendment is necessary to ensure an equal voice for all Americans. *Presented in partnership with the American Constitution Society for Law and Policy and American Promise.*

### **The Suffrage Movement: Revising the Final Campaign**

12 p.m., Wednesday, December 5

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

**Dawn Langan Teele**, author of *Forging the Franchise: The Political Origins of the Women's Vote*, and **Elaine Weiss**, author of *The Woman's Hour: The Great Fight to Win the Vote*, provide a stirring history of women's long journey to suffrage and the important political ideas behind the movement. Includes book sale. *In partnership with Vision 2020's Women 100: Celebrating 100 Years of Women's Voting Rights, a national initiative headquartered at Drexel University.*

### **Judicial Independence and the Federal Courts: A Historical Perspective**

Timing to come, Thursday, December 13

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

America's leading scholars and federal judges join the Center for three panel discussions exploring the evolution of judicial independence from the Founding to today. *In partnership with the Federal Judicial Center and sponsored by John Agliano.*

The National Constitution Center's *America's Town Hall* series features distinguished leaders, scholars, authors, and journalists who speak on the most significant constitutional topics of our time. Tickets for the National Constitution Center's *America's Town Hall* programs are free or discounted for Members

and advance registration is recommended as programs fill quickly. Tickets can be purchased by phone at 215-409-6700 or online at [constitutioncenter.org/debate](https://constitutioncenter.org/debate).

The National Constitution Center offers Continuing Legal Education credit in-person at *America's Town Hall* programs and on-demand online. Programs are available for CLE credit in various states. Visit [constitutioncenter.org/CLE](https://constitutioncenter.org/CLE) for additional information.

The National Constitution Center's onsite Town Hall programs are generously supported by the Paul S. Levy Programming Fund.

**About the National Constitution Center**

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

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