

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.

Designed by the architectural firm **Pei Cobb Freed & Partners**, the Center began welcoming the public on July 4, 2003, at 525 Arch Street in Philadelphia's Independence National Historical Park – America's most historic square mile.

Attracting **hundreds of thousands** of visitors per year, the National Constitution Center is **an engine of civic and constitutional education initiatives** for people of all ages and backgrounds. The Center is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt nonprofit, nonpartisan private organization. Support for the National Constitution Center helps drive our mission and efforts to promote a greater understanding of the U.S. Constitution through education and civil discourse.

Jeffrey Rosen was appointed as the president and CEO of the National Constitution Center in May 2013. He is also a professor at The George Washington University Law School, and a contributing editor for *The Atlantic*. Rosen is a highly regarded journalist, the *Chicago Tribune* named him one of the 10 best magazine journalists in America and the *Los Angeles Times* called him "the nation's most widely read and influential legal commentator." He received the 2012 Golden Pen Award from the Legal Writing Institute for his "extraordinary contribution to the cause of better legal writing." Rosen is a graduate of Harvard College; Oxford University, where he was a Marshall Scholar; and Yale Law School.

For more information, call 215-409-6700 or visit constitutioncenter.org.

VISIT

Visitors to the National Constitution Center learn the story of American history through the lens of the Constitution from 1765 until today. Exhibits, performances, and daily museum programs engage visitors and provide them with a deeper understanding of civics and how our government operates.

The National Constitution Center offers over 70,000 square feet of exhibit space. Visitors can experience multiple exhibits featuring rare documents, unique artifacts, personal stories of real citizens who influenced the Constitution, and more. The experience guides visitors through major milestones in American history and reveals how the U.S. Constitution is as important today as it was in 1787. Now is

an especially exciting time for visitors as the Center is proud to have on display the rarest handwritten drafts of the U.S. Constitution through 2019.

The National Constitution Center's main exhibit experience is comprised of three signature attractions: ***Freedom Rising***, ***The Story of We the People***, and the iconic ***Signers' Hall***.

Freedom Rising is a 17-minute, multimedia theatrical production that tells the story of the U.S. Constitution and the American quest for freedom. Called "the best 17-minute civics lesson in the country" by Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, *Freedom Rising* is presented in the Sidney Kimmel Theater, which was completely renovated and reopened in June 2016.

The Center's main exhibit gallery, ***The Story of We the People***, features interactives, rare artifacts, and multimedia displays that engage visitors of all ages with the history and enduring relevance of the U.S. Constitution.

Signers' Hall brings to life the final day of the Constitutional Convention in the Assembly Room of the Pennsylvania State House, now known as Independence Hall. Visitors are invited to walk among 42 life-size, bronze statues of the Framers who participated in the signing of the U.S. Constitution on September 17, 1787, including the three who dissented.

The museum also hosts many must-see, interactive feature exhibits that offer fresh, in-depth perspectives on the extraordinary story of "We the People." A full list of past exhibits and run dates can be found [here](#).

In addition to exhibits, visitors can enrich their visit with daily museum programs or a [Living News performance](#). In *Living News*, today's headlines are brought to life in a dynamic performance incorporating video, contemporary music, and current news broadcasts. Featuring three engaging actors who play multiple roles, *Living News* introduces controversial constitutional issues and encourages audience members to explore their own points of view during a post-show discussion.

Visitor amenities include **The Delegates' Cafe**, a glass-enclosed restaurant providing the backdrop of historic Independence Mall, as well as a **Museum Store**, operated by Aramark, offering a wide range of gifts, books, apparel, jewelry, and toys. Convenient parking is available to the public at the National Constitution Center garage. Enter from Race Street between 5th Street and 6th Street.

The National Constitution Center offers a variety of spaces to book an **event**, including the Grand Hall Overlook, which can accommodate up to 650 people. This space offers a breathtaking, bird's-eye view of Philadelphia's historic landmarks—making it a spectacular location for receptions, dinners, and programs. In addition, the John C. Bogle Chairman's Room, named for the Center's former Board Chairman, is an elegant, intimate venue for meetings and social engagements. The exclusive caterer is **Brûlée Catering**.

General Admission to the museum and daily programming: 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. Group discounts are available, and additional charges for traveling exhibits may apply.

LEARN

The National Constitution Center is a one-stop civic education headquarters and a premier field trip destination attracting schools and students from across the nation and internationally each year. The museum brings the story of “We the People” to life for students through a hands-on museum experience and innovative tools for teaching the U.S. Constitution in the classroom. Whether planning a field trip, looking for innovative ways to enhance classroom instruction, or seeking a deeper understanding of American history and the Constitution, the National Constitution Center is an educator’s ultimate civic learning resource.

Distributing digital educational content nationally and internationally, the National Constitution Center is proud to be a primary source for civic education and information about the U.S. Constitution. The core of our educational resources is the [Interactive Constitution](#), hailed by *USA Today* as an “internet sensation.” Averaging about 500,000 unique page views per month, this nonpartisan online tool presents the full text of the U.S. Constitution and features essays by leading scholars that detail areas of agreement and disagreement across a range of legal and philosophical perspectives. The National Constitution Center has pledged to bring it to every student in America.

The Interactive Constitution was made possible by a grant from the John Templeton Foundation and under the advisement of the American Constitution Society and The Federalist Society.

Constitution High School, a groundbreaking partnership between the National Constitution Center, the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, Ballard Spahr LLP, and the School District of Philadelphia, with support by the Annenberg Foundation, opened in 2006 as Pennsylvania’s first public school dedicated to the teaching of law, democracy, and history. The school’s faculty and the Center’s staff engage students in democratic deliberation and public action as means to teach civic knowledge. Major collaborations include *National History Day* and the *Policing in a More Perfect Union* project.

Civic Holidays

Civic holidays are occasions to commemorate America’s history and celebrate our rights and responsibilities as citizens. The Center’s civic holiday educational resources include the award-winning [Constitution Hall Pass](#) videos and our free webcast and live chat series.

A full list of civic holidays to celebrate with the National Constitution Center onsite or online can be found [here](#).

DEBATE

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. Our guests have included former presidents, Supreme Court Justices, heads of America’s leading think tanks, leading journalists, scholars, and authors from all sides of the debate. Many of these programs are also available for [Continuing Legal Education](#) credits.

[Constitution Daily](#), the National Constitution Center's widely read blog, presents nonpartisan analysis of current and historic constitutional issues and features the reporting of legendary Supreme Court correspondent Lyle Denniston.

The National Constitution Center's [We the People](#) podcast series, available on iTunes and Google Play, brings together the leading legal experts on both sides of constitutional issues in discussion moderated by Center President and CEO Jeffrey Rosen. Also available on iTunes and Google Play is [Live at America's Town Hall](#), audio of debates and discussions as part of the National Constitution Center's Town Hall series of programs.

About the Liberty Medal

The Liberty Medal was established in 1988 to commemorate the bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution. Given annually, the medal honors men and women of courage and conviction who strive to secure the blessings of liberty to people around the globe. Proceeds from the Liberty Medal support the National Constitution Center's mission and its efforts to promote a greater understanding of the U.S. Constitution through education and civil discourse.

Visit our website for a [complete list of Liberty Medal winners](#).

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