

NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER BEGINS MEMBERS ONLY CULTURE CLUB

PHILADELPHIA, PA (October 4, 2005) — Constitutional issues are all around us, in movies, television, books, theater, and other cultural outlets. Now members of the National Constitution Center have a new opportunity to share information and ideas about these issues in pop culture by attending a new series called the “Culture Club.”

The Culture Club will meet on the third Thursday of every month in the Delegates’ Restaurant to discuss current constitutional issues that exist in our daily lives. Together, its members will examine new books, films, television, theater and other cultural activities and their constitutional implications. Culture Club meetings are free and exclusive to National Constitution Center members. Reservations for all meetings are required.

The first meeting will occur on October 20, 2005 at 6:00 p.m., and will focus on the new movie *Good Night, and Good Luck*, written and directed by George Clooney. Set in 1950’s America during the early days of broadcast journalism, the film chronicles the real-life conflict between television newsman Edward R. Murrow, Senator Joseph McCarthy and the House Un-American Activities Committee. This docudrama provides a snapshot of American history when Murrow and the CBS newsroom defied corporate and sponsorship pressures to challenge Senator McCarthy’s investigations.

The Culture Club’s second meeting on November 17th at 6:00 p.m. will examine *Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln*, the latest work of acclaimed historian Doris Kearns Goodwin.

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ADD ONE/CULTURE CLUB

In her new book, Goodwin highlights Lincoln's political genius as the one-term congressman/prairie lawyer who rises from obscurity to become President. This discussion is being held in conjunction with the author's visit to the National Constitution Center on November 2, 2005. Tickets for that event are \$10 for members, \$15 for non-members and \$6 for students. The National Constitution Center is also offering a special package for \$75 which includes a private reception with the author prior to the program, admission to the event and a signed copy of *Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln*.

Future Culture Club meetings will examine the FOX television drama "24" (January 19) and the Opera Company of Philadelphia's East Coast premiere of the Civil War drama *Margaret Garner* (February 16).

The Culture Club is an exclusive offering for members of the National Constitution Center. Membership to the National Constitution Center is an easy way to become a part of history. Benefits include free admission for you or your family for one year, a 10% Museum shop discount, the *Signature* newsletter, discounts to National Constitution Center programs, and now the opportunity to attend Culture Club meetings. For more information about National Constitution Center Membership or to make a reservation for an upcoming even, please call the membership line at 215-409-6767 or send an email to membership@constitutioncenter.org.

Located at 525 Arch Street on Philadelphia's Independence Mall, the National Constitution Center is an independent, nonpartisan, nonprofit organization dedicated to increasing public understanding of the U.S. Constitution and its relevance to Americans' daily lives. Opened on July 4, 2003, the museum dramatically tells the story of the Constitution from Revolutionary times to the present through more than 100 interactive, multimedia exhibits, film, photographs, text, sculpture and artifacts, and features a powerful, award-winning theatrical performance, "Freedom Rising". From June 10 through November 4, the museum is also featuring its first new traveling exhibition, *Lincoln: The Constitution and the Civil War*. Museum admission is \$9 for adults and \$7 for seniors ages 62 and up, children ages 4-12, and active military personnel.

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ADD TWO/CULTURE CLUB

The National Constitution Center also houses the Annenberg Center for Education and Outreach, which serves as the hub for national constitutional education and debates, and as a home for visiting scholars. Also, serving as a nonpartisan forum for constitutional debate, the Center presents – without endorsement – programs that contain diverse viewpoints on a broad range of issues. For more information, call 215.409.6600 or visit www.constitutioncenter.org.

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