

# NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER

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## **PORTRAIT OF GEORGE WASHINGTON, C. 1795 ON DISPLAY AT NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER**

PHILADELPHIA, PA (November 29, 2004) – As the 228<sup>th</sup> anniversary of George Washington's pivotal crossing of the Delaware River draws near, the National Constitution Center has installed a new artifact to its exhibit. The Athenaeum Portrait of George Washington, painted in 1795 by Gilbert Stuart, is on loan from the collection of Mr. and Ms. Douglas Turner. Stuart painted the portrait of the President in Philadelphia, then the capital of the United States. Washington would retire two years later, after deciding not to seek a third term. The oil on canvas painting will be on display in the Richard and Helen DeVos American Experience exhibit hall until April 2006.

General Washington led approximately 2,400 soldiers across the Delaware River during the night of December 25, staging a surprise attack on the Hessian-held town of Trenton. The battle was one of the turning points of the Revolutionary War.

The National Constitution Center, located at 525 Arch St. on Philadelphia's Independence Mall, 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 3, 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". The 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 contains diverse viewpoints on a broad range of issues.

The National Constitution Center is open seven days a week, and admission is \$7 for adults and \$5 for seniors ages 62 and up, children ages 4-12, and active military personnel. Group rates are also available. For more information, call 215.409.6600 or visit [www.constitutioncenter.org](http://www.constitutioncenter.org).

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