



NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**THE NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER AND *PHILADELPHIA MAGAZINE*
PRESENT "PHILADELPHIA TALKS"
AT THE NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER**

PHILADELPHIA, PA (May 24, 2006) – Join the National Constitution Center on Thursday, June 15, 2006 at 6:30 p.m. for the premiere of "Philadelphia Talks", a series of unique discussions about the hottest issues confronting our city. The first discussion focuses on the upcoming 2007 Mayoral campaign and the men and women who will vie for one of the toughest jobs in Pennsylvania. Chris Mottola, an accomplished consultant for Republican candidates across the nation, and Neil Oxman, one of the leading national consultants on the Democratic side, will discuss the wide field of candidates for Mayor. *Philadelphia Magazine* editor Larry Platt will moderate. Admission is free for members and K-12 teachers, and \$5 for non-members. Advance reservations are required and can be made by calling 215.409.6700.

"The National Constitution Center is thrilled to present this series in partnership with *Philadelphia Magazine*, one of our city's premier publications. 'Philadelphia Talks' is an important forum for debate that fits perfectly with the Center's mission as not only a museum, but also an education center. Our aim is to encourage discussion and the exchange of ideas about the most pertinent issues facing our city today," says National Constitution Center President and CEO Richard Stengel.

"We want this series to facilitate dialogue about the important issues of the day and there is no better venue or partner for such discussions than the National Constitution Center, which truly is a national treasure and a testament to the power of ideas," says *Philadelphia Magazine* Editor-in-Chief Larry Platt.

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ADD ONE/PHILADELPHIA TALKS SERIES

Chris Mottola is a nationally recognized political media consultant. His roster of clients includes President George W. Bush, United States Senator Lincoln Chafee (RI), United States Senator Arlen Specter (PA), and Governor George Pataki (NY). He was the first consultant ever to promote a Republican candidate (U.S. Senator Gordon Smith, OR) using pro-gay rights advertising. *ABC News* called the Smith effort, “the best campaign in the nation.” Mottola has lectured before Oxford University, the World Affairs Council, and is a political contributor to NPR.

Neil Oxman is a Philadelphia-based Democratic media strategist who earned his reputation when his compelling commercials enabled Wilson Goode to become the first African-American Mayor in the City’s history, beating out former Mayor Frank Rizzo. He has served as consultant for most of Governor Ed Rendell’s campaigns, including this year’s reelection race. This year, Oxman’s Campaign Group represents Senator Tom Carper (D-DE), Senator Jeff Bingaman (D-NM), and Massachusetts Attorney General Tom Reilly, who is running for Governor.

Larry Platt took the helm as Editor-in-Chief of *Philadelphia Magazine* in September 2002. Platt had been affiliated with *Philadelphia Magazine* for ten years, writing features on sports, politics, media and business. His work has appeared in *GQ*, *The New York Times Magazine*, and *Salon.com*, among other publications.

One of the most distinguished metropolitan monthly publications in the country, *Philadelphia Magazine* was founded in 1908 as a quarterly illustrated magazine published by the Trades League of Philadelphia, and has been in continuous publication for more than 90 years. Bought in 1946 by S. Arthur Lipson, the magazine has remained in continuous operation by the Lipson family. Current Chairman D. Herbert Lipson took the helm as Publisher in 1961, and in 1986, the torch was passed to S. Arthur Lipson’s grandson, David H. Lipson, Jr., now President.

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 the ideas and values it represents. Opened on July 4, 2003, the Constitution Center is a museum, an education

ADD TWO/PHILADELPHIA TALKS SERIES

center, and a forum for debate on constitutional issues. 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 is a partner of NPR’s “Justice Talking,” a program of the Annenberg Public Policy Center. Also, serving as a nonpartisan forum for constitutional discourse, 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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