

NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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FAMILIES CELEBRATE FRANKLIN'S 300TH BIRTHDAY WITH A PAJAMA PARTY AT THE NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER

Philadelphia, PA (December 9, 2005) – Families can put on their fuzzy slippers and cozy pajamas to enjoy fun-filled activities at the National Constitution Center in celebration of Benjamin Franklin's 300th birthday. *Ben's Birthday Pajama Party* will kick off Ben's birthday weekend on Friday, January 13 from 7:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m., just four days before his big 3-0-0! Event admission is \$40 for adults and \$25 for children ages 4-12. National Constitution Center members will receive a special discount of \$35 for adults and \$20 for children ages 4-12. Reservations are required at 215-409-6700.

Ben's Birthday Pajama Party will feature music, games, movies, party food, children's activities and admission to the *Benjamin Franklin: In Search of a Better World* exhibition. Admission to the Constitution Center's permanent exhibition, including *Signers' Hall*, the "Your Bill of Rights" show, and performances of "Freedom Rising" are also included.

Highlights of the evening include themed rooms where families can enjoy a wide range of activities. A "Music Madness" room will include karaoke, dancing, and a pajama fashion parade. The "Beauty Mania" room will be every girl's favorite, complete with manicures and hair and make-up stations. Kids will also love magic shows, science experiments, and storytelling sessions in the Grand Hall Lobby, as well as Disney favorites *Ben and Me* and *The Incredibles* on the big screen in Kirby Auditorium, courtesy of Radio Disney and Comcast-Spectacor.

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ADD ONE/PAJAMA PARTY

Other activities will include kite making, face painting, and board game tournaments certain to keep everyone in the birthday spirit all night long! The Blue Cross River Rink Skate Squad will make an appearance from 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. The Philly Phanatic will also join in the fun from 7:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. Families can join CBS 3 chief meteorologist Kathy Orr for a Winter Weather Workshop from 8:00 p.m. – 8:45 p.m. to learn fun facts about Philadelphia winters and take the Eyewitness Weather Quiz for a chance to win special prizes.

For families who don't want to venture far after the party, two Philadelphia hotels are offering a special package in conjunction with *Ben's Birthday Pajama Party*. The Holiday Inn Historic District located at 400 Arch Street will provide a convenient, cozy place to stay for the night. For reservations, call 1-800-THE-BELL. All reservations should be made by January 6, 2006. The Omni Hotel at Independence Park at 401 Chestnut Street will also provide a welcoming, warm place to stay. For reservations, call 1-888-444-OMNI. Complimentary shuttles from Philadelphia Trolley Works will take guests from the National Constitution Center to each hotel.

Benjamin Franklin: In Search of a Better World, a blockbuster exhibition celebrating Franklin's 300th birthday, makes its world premiere at the National Constitution Center from December 15, 2005, through April 30, 2006. Created by the Benjamin Franklin Tercentenary, this exhibition is being hosted locally by CBS 3. Tickets for the exhibition, which also include regular museum admission, are \$14 for adults; \$12 for children ages 4-12, seniors, and college students; and \$8.50 for groups of 20 or more. For advance tickets, call 215.409.6700 or visit www.gophila.com/ben.

Located at 525 Arch Street on Philadelphia's historic 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". For more information, visit www.constitutioncenter.org.

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