

# NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER ANNOUNCES 2009 STUDENT FELLOWS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE PETER JENNINGS PROJECT FOR JOURNALISTS AND THE CONSTITUTION

Philadelphia, PA (February 6, 2009) – Seven collegiate journalists from across the country have been selected to participate in the 2009 **Peter Jennings Project for Journalists and the Constitution** at the National Constitution Center from February 27 through March 1, 2009. Named in honor of the late, award-winning news anchor and friend of the National Constitution Center, this annual conference gives student journalists the opportunity to explore the constitutional dimension in the news today and acquire a deeper understanding of the Constitution and its important role in the lives of all Americans.

The 2009 Jennings Student Fellows are:

- Denise Horn, Howard University, Washington, D.C.
- Peter Kollmann, Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism, New York, NY
- Andrew Mangino, Yale University, New Haven, CT
- Seth Miller, United States Military Academy, West Point, NY
- Caleb Neufeld, Cooper Union, New York, NY
- Tianyi Xin, United States Military Academy, West Point, NY
- Erica Zucco, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO

The selection of the 2009 Jennings Student Fellows was based on an application process in which students were asked to write 500 words on why they would be an ideal candidate for the conference and what they hope to bring back to their school following the event. In addition, the students were asked to describe the single piece of journalism that they are most proud of and include it with their application.

The theme for this year's conference is "The Presidency." The selected student journalists will have the opportunity to work one-on-one with leading journalists, jurists, lawyers, scholars, and political leaders; learn about the constitutional impact on journalism today; and take part in a series of programs, including:

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## ADD ONE/2009 STUDENT FELLOWS

- *A Moot Court: The War Powers Resolution*: This hypothetical Supreme Court case will test the constitutionality of the War Powers Resolution, and will be argued by distinguished legal scholars and Jennings faculty Kenneth W. Starr, Dean of the Pepperdine University School of Law, and Erwin Chemerinsky, Dean of the University of California at Irvine School of Law, before a panel of equally distinguished judges.
- *Behind the Scenes: The Executive Response to 9/11*: High-ranking members of the Bush Administration will discuss what went on behind closed doors in the White House Situation Room, at the Pentagon, and on Air Force One on the day of the 9/11 attacks and its immediate aftermath.
- *Off the Record: The First 100 Days*: This intimate, insider's look at what it takes to build and operate a White House staff during the first 100 days will feature a conversation about several 20<sup>th</sup> Century presidents with biographers Jonathan Alter, Lou Cannon, Robert Dallek, and Richard Reeves

Approximately thirty-five journalists from print, broadcast, and online media organizations across the country will also participate as Jennings Fellows. Selected from an application process, the 2009 Jennings Fellows represent national and international newspapers, a variety of smaller circulation newspapers and magazines, as well as broadcasting and online ventures. Through a variety of programs, the Jennings Fellows will experience how the constitutional discussion is not limited to the domain of the court system, academic exchange, and civics classes; it becomes part of our daily lives, and therefore, affects much of what journalists write, broadcast, edit, and produce.

The Peter Jennings Project for Journalists and the Constitution is made possible through the generosity of The Annenberg Foundation.

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. The Center serves as a museum, an education 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,

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## ADD TWO/2009 STUDENT FELLOWS

“Freedom Rising”. The Center also houses the Annenberg Center for Education and Outreach, which serves as the hub for national constitutional education. Also, 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 215.409.6700 or visit [www.constitutioncenter.org](http://www.constitutioncenter.org).

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