

# NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER

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## THE NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER OFFERS A VARIETY OF DAILY PROGRAMS TO VISITORS

Philadelphia, PA - The National Constitution Center offers a variety of interactive public programs as a means of enhancing the overall visitor experience. The Center has combined the creativity and knowledge of its staff and the interactive nature of its exhibits to create engaging activities for students and families of all ages. The programs vary, but are appropriate for both groups and individual visitors. Visitors should check the Center's daily programs list for the schedule. All programs are subject to change.

The Center offers programs that are **FREE with museum admission**. These programs, led by a public programs demonstrator, are held in the main exhibit hall and in *Signers' Hall*. Constitution Center visitors are not required to make a reservation for any of these activities. Such programs include:

- **Decoding the Document: Emancipation Proclamation** – Students will have the chance to take a closer look at the Center's rare printing of the Emancipation Proclamation to learn more about its history, the history of the Civil War, and the background of the 13<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, and 15<sup>th</sup> amendments.
- **Political Cartoons 101** – Visitors can join in a discussion and laugh as they look at cartoons that poke fun at our world.
- **Signers' Hall Guess Who Game** – Visitors will use detective skills to determine the oldest member of the Constitutional Convention. Students will have to guess who the secret signer is during this fun competition by using detective skills to solve the mystery.
- **Capture the Flag** – Students will jump right into state history and learn about state flags in this exciting and active race about state flags and their symbols.
- **Balance of Powers** – Students will learn about the three branches of government and take a look at the jobs, buildings, and mission of our government.
- **Memorials Show: How a Nation Remembers** – Students will learn about the history of our nation's most interesting memorials and how they contribute to popular sovereignty.

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## ADD ONE/PUBLIC PROGRAMS

- **Immigration Wheel** – Students will learn about the history of immigration to America with this new, interactive game wheel. Students will spin the wheel and find out how immigration laws and rights have changed over time and test their skills by answering history questions to gain citizenship.
- **A Run for the Oval Office** – Students will explore the steps of a presidential campaign in this fun and interactive program designed to take students from the official announcement to the swearing-in ceremony.

Other public programs allow visitors to step back in time and understand what it was like to live and work during the colonial times. These are held in the Grand Hall Lobby and are **FREE to all visitors, but museum admission is not included.**

- **Paper Mill** – Visitors can get their hands wet with paper making in this fun for all ages activity. They can keep the paper they make as a token of their hard work.
- **Print Shop** – Visitors can learn how to be a printer at the Center's hands-on printing shop.
- **Giant Game Board**– Young visitors become life-size pieces on a giant game board as their constitutional knowledge is tested.

The Center also offers **six unique exhibit experiences for groups of 20 or more to purchase** and add on to their visit. Each package costs \$14 per person, and includes the award-winning theatrical performance, "Freedom Rising"; exploration of the National Constitution Center's main exhibition, *The Story of We the People*; and an interactive, themed presentation. Reservations must be booked in advance by calling the Group Sales Department at 215.409.6800. The themed exhibit experiences include:

- **We, the Jury** – Students will be the judge and jury in an exciting day designed to teach them about the judicial system. They will learn about courts and the rule of law in a walking tour of the exhibits and join in a trial that dramatizes some landmark cases. This program is available for students in grades 4-8.
- **Destination: White House - Elections!** – Students will learn about the presidency with a focus on presidential elections and the functions of the executive branch in a fun-filled day dedicated to the presidency. Students will tour the exhibits and learn about past presidents, historic elections, and presidential powers throughout history. They will choose a president, learn about platforms, and watch some of the most famous ad campaigns of all times. This program is available for students in grades 3-12.
- **Pass the Citizenship Test** – Students will learn about the rights and responsibilities of citizenship. They will take part in a guided exploration through the Center's main exhibit hall and learn about the freedoms they possess, the ongoing struggle to secure them for all Americans, and how they can change the country's future. The *Be a Citizen Game Show* will put educators and students to the test to see if they have what it takes to be informed and active citizens. This program is available for students in grades 3-12.

## ADD TWO/PUBLIC PROGRAMS

- **The Keystone State** – Students will explore the foundation of our state governments from William Penn’s vision to our present day courts and legislation. They will become active members of this government as they learn about how it was established and how it works today. This program is available for students in grades 4-8.
- **“Living News”** – “Living News” is a theatrical performance with three actors that brings the Center’s unique way of presenting civics and history through theater to young visitors. The 20-minute show engages the hearts and minds of youth with constitutional issues in the news. Each show is followed by a 20-minute discussion transforming the performance space into a public forum. This program is available for students in grades 7-12.
- **Being an Active Citizen** – Students’ voices will be heard as they learn how to become active citizens at home, in school, at camp, and throughout their everyday lives. While experiencing the museum on a guided exploration, students will hear stories about children just like themselves who stood up for freedom and changed our country in the process. This inspirational and empowering package is available for students in grades K-3.
- **Free to Be You** – This package is a fast-paced competition exploring the First Amendment and the freedoms it protects. Students will learn about Americans who stood up for their First Amendment rights and changed our country in the process. Students will join in the hunt for freedom fighters of the past as an educator leads them on a guided exploration of the main exhibition. To complete the day’s activities, students will perform a skit about a First Amendment freedom to gain points for their team. This package is available for students in grades 4-12.

To further enhance the museum experience, the Center offers self-guided audio tours. Students will be guided through the exhibits by former presidents, authors, and voices of the past. **The audio tour is an additional \$3 per person and is available daily with the purchase of regular museum admission.**

- **Signer’s Hall Tour** – Visitors will be transported back in time to September 17, 1787 to relive the moment when the Delegates signed the Constitution. With a special introduction by President George H.W. Bush, the tour offers an exciting way to explore our past and encounter the issues that still challenge us today.
- **We, the People Tour** – Visitors will learn about the Center’s artifacts and the time periods they came from and hear the fascinating story of how the struggles of everyday Americans have made us the country we are today.
- **Mission: The Oval Office Tour** – Visitors will take a fun-filled trip through the Center’s main exhibit hall with Kathy O’Connell from Kids Corner to explore the history of our presidents.

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## ADD THREE/PUBLIC PROGRAMS

### **Traveling History and Civics Program**

The Center is making history and civics come to life with a new Traveling History and Civics Program. Members of the Center's knowledgeable staff are taking programs on the road with interactive performances and exciting challenges for all grade levels. All shows are designed to be fun and interactive while meeting curriculum standards. **Each show costs \$250 for one 45-minute presentation, \$150 for each additional presentation of the same show, and \$200 for each additional show on a different topic. A one-hour classroom workshop is also available for \$200.**

Educators can choose from a wide variety of show topics including *Destination: White House*, *Philadelphia Voter Registration Initiative*, *Citizenship Test*, *Being an Active Citizen*, *Bill of Rights*, *Separation of Powers*, *Fourth of July*, and *History Detectives Workshop: Artifacts from the 1800s and 1900s*.

### **Historic City Walking Tour**

Groups can also walk through the Historic District of Philadelphia with one of the Center's museum educators. Beginning in *Signers' Hall*, the tour explores some amazing objects of the past and teaches what life was like in America during the 1800s and 1900s. Students will use objects and documents as primary sources to explore the past. The tour lasts approximately one hour. **The Historic City Walking Tour is an additional \$7.50 per person with the purchase of regular museum admission.**

For additional information, call 215.409.6700 or visit [www.constitutioncenter.org](http://www.constitutioncenter.org).

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