

# NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## LOCAL PROFESSOR DAVID TRAXEL AT THE NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER TO DISCUSS NEW BOOK

PHILADELPHIA, PA (January 25, 2006) — Local professor David Traxel will discuss his new book *Crusader Nation: The United States in Peace and the Great War* on February 15, 2006 at 5:30 p.m. at the National Constitution Center. Traxel explores the transformative first two decades of the twentieth century and the remarkable individuals who fought against the social conventions of the Victorian Age and forever changed the path the country would follow. Admission is free, but reservations are required and can be made by calling 215.409.6700.

In *Crusader Nation*, Traxel brings to life the stories of legendary individuals such as famed playwright Eugene O' Neill, politicians Woodrow Wilson and Theodore Roosevelt, industrialist Henry Ford and many others who forged a movement through various struggles and forms of rebellion that pushed the envelope of the Victorian Age. Progressive reform movements to end child labor, win the vote for women, seek out political corruption, improve public health and education and prohibit alcohol are just a few of the topics Traxel uses to illustrate important qualities of our nation's character that are still present today.

Traxel's previous work includes *1898: The Birth of the American Century*, which highlights what he believes to be another critical time of innovation and invention in the history of America. A native of California, he received his B.A. in History from the University of California, Berkeley and his M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of California. Traxel is currently an associate professor of history at the University of the Sciences in Philadelphia.

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## ADD ONE/TRAXEL PROGRAM

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".

The National Constitution 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 contain diverse viewpoints on a broad range of issues. For more information, call 215.409.6600 or visit [www.constitutioncenter.org](http://www.constitutioncenter.org).

*Benjamin Franklin: In Search of a Better World*, a blockbuster exhibition celebrating Franklin's 300<sup>th</sup> 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.constitutioncenter.org](http://www.constitutioncenter.org).

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