

NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ARTIFACTS HIGHLIGHTING WOMEN IN HISTORY AT THE NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER

PHILADELPHIA, PA (February 10, 2006) – Visitors to the National Constitution Center during the month of March will have the opportunity to discover the tremendous contributions and accomplishments of women pioneers throughout history. In celebration of Women’s History Month, the National Constitution Center has highlighted several artifacts throughout its main exhibition that connect visitors to great events and time periods in women’s history.

Representing two of the most significant eras in the history of women in our nation, women’s suffrage and the women’s rights movement of the 1970’s, are an “Ask Santa to Bring a Vote for Mother” stocking and a button from the campaign to ratify an Equal Rights Amendment. Other artifacts include an autograph book from 1876 with the signatures of Elizabeth Cady Stanton and other leaders of the women’s suffrage movement and the robe worn by retired Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O’Connor.

Visitors can also learn more about several important women pioneers throughout history by reading about the impact they had on shaping the Constitution at the American National Tree exhibit in the permanent exhibition. Included on the tree are Bella Abzug, a flamboyant feminist member of House of Representatives; Myra Bradwell, a feminist denied the right to practice law; Mary Goddard, printer of the Declaration of Independence; Katharine Graham, *Washington Post* publisher who authorized

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ADD ONE/WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

publication of Pentagon Papers; Candy Lightner, Founder of Mothers Against Drunk Driving; Ellen McCormack, the Right-to-Life candidate in the 1980 presidential election; Patsy Mink, the first Asian-American elected to Congress; and many more!

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". Regular admission is \$9 for adults; \$7 for children ages 4-12, seniors, and college students.

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.constitutioncenter.org.

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