

NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER

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NEWSWEEK'S JONATHAN ALTER TO EXAMINE PRESIDENT OBAMA'S FIRST YEAR IN OFFICE AT THE NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER

Philadelphia, PA (June 2, 2010) —**Jonathan Alter**, bestselling author and national political reporter for *Newsweek* and NBC, will join the National Constitution Center to discuss President Obama's first year in office, as told in his new book, *The Promise*, the first book about Obama's presidency. **Harold Jackson**, editor of *The Philadelphia Inquirer's* editorial page, will moderate. The program will take place on Tuesday, June 22, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. Admission is \$9 for members, \$15 for non-members, \$7 for students and teachers, and free for 1787 Society members. Reservations are required and can be made by calling 215.409.6700.

In *The Promise*, Alter provides an inside account of the breakneck speed with which President-elect Obama—and then President Obama—began making critical decisions and assuming the burdens of office amid the greatest economic crisis since the Great Depression. Alter also explores what Obama is like as a person, how he operates, and why he is so insistent on leading the country into a new era of change.

Jonathan Alter is an award-winning columnist, television analyst and author. Since 1991, he has written a widely-acclaimed *Newsweek* column that examines politics, media, and society at large. For more than a decade, he has worked as a contributing correspondent to NBC News. Alter is a Harvard graduate and a former editor of *The*

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Washington Monthly. He is also the author of the acclaimed national bestseller, *The Defining Moment: FDR's Hundred Days and the Triumph of Hope*.

Harold Jackson is the editor of the *Philadelphia Inquirer's* editorial page. He became deputy editor of the paper's Editorial Page in 2004, after serving as coordinator of the newspaper's zoned daily commentary and Sunday Voices pages. Jackson previously served as an editorial writer at the *Baltimore Sun* and the *Birmingham News*. In 1991, he and two colleagues were awarded the Pulitzer Prize for editorial writing for a series on changing Alabama's tax system. Jackson also worked for United Press International and the *Birmingham Post-Herald*. In 2007, he was a Peter Jennings Fellow for Journalists and the Constitution at the National Constitution Center.

A book sale and signing will follow the program, courtesy of Joseph Fox Bookshop.

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, "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.

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