

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Merissa Blum, 215-409-6645

mblum@constitutioncenter.org

SECRETARY OF EDUCATION BETSY DEVOS TO PARTICIPATE IN NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER'S CONSTITUTION DAY CELEBRATION ON MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

The National Constitution Center will offer free admission and programming on Constitution Day

Philadelphia, PA (September 14, 2018) – Today, the National Constitution Center announced that the Honorable **Betsy DeVos**, the 11th Secretary of Education, will participate in the Center's annual Constitution Day celebration on Monday, September 17.

At 10:30 a.m., during a Student Town Hall program in the National Constitution Center's Sidney Kimmel Theater, Secretary of Education **Betsy DeVos** will discuss the relevance of our founding document today, the importance of civic education, and campus free speech. She will also discuss her role as a member of the president's cabinet and will take questions from students in the audience.

The conversation with Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos is open to student groups, and advanced reservations are required. Speak to a Group Sales Representative at 215-409-6800. Press interested in attending should contact Merissa Blum at 215-409-6645 or mblum@constitutioncenter.org. The program will also be streamed live at constitutioncenter.org/live.

The Center's 2018 Constitution Day celebration will welcome over 4,000 students to commemorate the 231st anniversary of the signing of the U.S. Constitution. Additional Constitution Day highlights include Town Hall programs with author **Linda Monk** on the Bill of Rights and with Judge **Jeffrey S. Sutton** on the importance of state courts and state constitutions. Other special programs include student conversations with federal judges and a Naturalization Ceremony with a keynote address by Philadelphia Mayor **Jim Kenney.**

Family-friendly programs include historic character meet and greets, 18th century games, calligraphy demonstrations, and arts and craft activities. Visitors can also step inside an actual voting booth to cast a vote for their favorite figure from constitutional history. A full list of programming can be found here.

Admission and all activities, including Town Hall programs and feature exhibits, are free courtesy of the Schwab Charitable Fund, made possible by the generosity of the Present Progressive Fund.

The National Constitution Center will also offer complimentary online resources leading up to and including Constitution Day. The Center's dedicated <u>Constitution Day website</u> provides educators with a variety of tools to teach the Constitution in the classroom. This Constitution Day, the Center is also piloting the first **Constitutional Exchanges for Classrooms** where over 500 high school students will have the opportunity to engage in virtual constitutional conversations with their peers from around the country. More information on the exchanges is available <u>here</u>.





About the National Constitution Center

The National Constitution Center in Philadelphia inspires citizenship as the only place where people across America and around the world can come together to learn about, debate, and celebrate the greatest vision of human freedom in history, the U.S. Constitution. A private, nonprofit organization, the Center serves as America's leading platform for constitutional education and debate, fulfilling its Congressional charter "to disseminate information about the U.S. Constitution on a nonpartisan basis." As the Museum of We the People, the Center brings the Constitution to life for visitors of all ages through interactive programs and exhibits. As America's Town Hall, the Center brings the leading conservative and liberal thought leaders together to debate the Constitution on all media platforms. As a center for Civic Education, the Center delivers the best educational programs and online resources that inspire, excite, and engage citizens about the U.S. Constitution. For more information, call 215-409-6700 or visit constitutioncenter.org.