



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**FREE ADMISSION, HISTORICAL RE-ENACTMENTS, AND A SEVEN-TON HOAGIE SALUTE PART OF  
THE NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER'S INDEPENDENCE WEEK PROGRAMMING**

***Admission to the museum is FREE on Thursday, June 28, courtesy of Wawa***

Philadelphia, PA (June 25, 2018) – The National Constitution Center announces an array of festivities for its annual **All-American Celebration** on Independence Mall, **Thursday, June 28, through Wednesday, July 4**. Family-friendly programs include historic character meet and greets where visitors can interact with famous figures from history, including Founding Fathers like Ben Franklin and George Washington, 18th century games, arts and craft activities, colonial dress up stations, and more. Visitors can join the National Constitution Center staff each morning for a spirited flag raising ceremony, and then again in the evenings as they lower the flag.

To kick off the festivities, the National Constitution Center will participate in **Wawa Hoagie Day** on Thursday, June 28. **Admission to the museum is free on June 28** courtesy of Wawa, and includes access to the Center's main and feature exhibits, as well as a display featuring Wawa's history in the Philadelphia region and the history of the famous hoagie sandwich. In addition to Wawa Hoagie Day, the National Constitution Center will participate in events around the historic district all week long, including Philadelphia's Historic District Block Party and Go 4th & Learn, as part of the Wawa Welcome America festival. A full listing of Wawa Welcome America events can be found [here](#).

Additional All-American Celebration programs include the National Constitution Center's **Finding the Founders Scholarly Talks and Walking Tours on July 2**. These conversations provide an expanded understanding of Independence Day — one that sees the holiday as both a celebration and an acknowledgment of America's ongoing struggle to achieve the ideals expressed in the nation's founding documents. This year, the talks will also celebrate Founding Father Alexander Hamilton, in conjunction with the Center's newest exhibit *Hamilton: The Constitutional Clashes That Shaped a Nation*, and commemorate the 150th anniversary of the 14th Amendment, which guarantees to all persons equal protection under the law.

**PLEASE NOTE:**

- Wawa Hoagie Day, Thursday, June 28 – **Extended museum hours, 9:30 a.m. – 8 p.m.**
- All-American Celebration, Monday, July 2, and Tuesday, July 3 – **Extended museum hours, 9:30 a.m. – 8 p.m.**

**[All-American Celebration Programming, June 28 through July 4](#)**

**Hamilton's Early Life**

Thursday, June 28 – Saturday, June 30, and Monday, July 2 – Wednesday, July 4, 10 a.m., 11:30 a.m., 2 p.m., Sunday, July 1, at 2 p.m., *Main Lobby*

In conjunction with the Center's newest feature exhibit, *Hamilton: The Constitutional Clashes That Shaped a Nation*, this interactive lobby show introduces visitors to the story of Alexander Hamilton's early life. Visitors will learn about his experience growing up in the Caribbean and his journey to the United States, his struggle to obtain an education, and his time as a Revolutionary soldier at the right hand of George Washington.

### **Independence Day Show**

Thursday, June 28, Friday, June 29, and Monday, July 2 – Wednesday, July 4, 11 a.m., 1 p.m., 3 p.m.

Saturday, June 30, 11 a.m., 1 p.m.

Sunday, July 1, at 1 p.m.

*Grand Hall Overlook Stage*

From parades to protests, cannons to flags waving, explosive words to fiery demonstrations, this show takes an in-depth look at the celebration of freedom from the early days of American independence to the present day.

### **Giant Flag Folding**

Daily, 12:45 p.m., *Front Lawn*

Visitors can help members of the museum's staff fold a giant 20'X30' American flag.

### **Flag Etiquette Workshop**

Daily, 1:30 p.m., *Grand Hall Overlook Stage*

Visitors can learn fun facts about the history of the American flag, as well as proper flag etiquette.

### **The Star-Spangled Banner: A History of Our National Anthem Show**

Thursday, June 28, Friday, June 29, and Monday, July 2 – Wednesday, July 4, 9:30 a.m., 3:30 p.m.

Saturday, June 30, 9:30 a.m.

*Grand Hall Overlook Stage*

Visitors can learn the story of Francis Scott Key, the Battle of Fort McHenry, and the flag that inspired the national anthem.

### **Wawa Hoagie Day**

Thursday, June 28, 9:30 a.m. – 8 p.m.

*Free admission courtesy of Wawa*

The National Constitution Center and Wawa celebrate the 26th annual Wawa Hoagie Day, featuring a seven-ton hoagie salute, free Wawa hoagies served at noon to the crowd on Independence Mall, programs and activities honoring the U.S. military and their families, performances by the USO Show Troupe, and more.

### **What America Eats: The History of the Hoagie Show**

10:30 a.m., 12 p.m., 2:30 p.m., *Grand Hall Overlook Stage*

This engaging program explores the history of the American hoagie and the many names "We the People" use for this favorite sandwich.

### **Hoagies for Heroes Displays and Activities**

10 a.m. – 5 p.m., *Grand Hall Overlook*

Visitors to the Center can join Wawa in supporting U.S. troops with activities including letter writing to service men and women and arts and crafts.

### **History of the Hoagie Exhibit**

10 a.m. – 5 p.m., *Grand Hall Overlook*

Visitors can explore the story of one of Philadelphia's most beloved foods.

### **Revolutionary War Encampment**

Monday, July 2 – Wednesday, July 4, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., *Front Lawn*

At the recreated military encampment on the National Constitution Center's front lawn, visitors can step back in time to watch a blacksmith forge iron, practice being a Revolutionary-era soldier with a wooden musket, stop by the medical tent to visit the surgeon, and observe Continental Army soldiers march and drill on the grounds. At 1 p.m. on Wednesday, July 4, visitors can join in a dramatic reading of the Declaration of Independence. *Presented in partnership with the [6th Pennsylvania Regiment](#).*

### **Finding the Founders Scholarly Talks and Walking Tours**

Monday, July 2, 10:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Visit the National Constitution Center and neighboring sites throughout Historic Philadelphia to join conversations on equality and freedom throughout history.

- Historic District Walking Tour with **Dr. George Boudreau**, author of *Independence: A Guide to Historic Philadelphia*: 10:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m., *Museum of the American Revolution (101 S 3rd Street)*
- Women in Revolutionary America with **Sandra Lloyd**, historian at Historic Philadelphia, Inc.: 11:30 a.m. and 2 p.m., *Betsy Ross House (239 Arch Street)*
- The Declaration Around the World with **Dr. Philip Mead**, director of curatorial affairs and chief historian for the Museum of the American Revolution: 2 p.m., *Museum of the American Revolution (101 S 3rd Street)*
- The Life and Legacy of Alexander Hamilton with **Dr. Andrew Shankman**, associate professor of history and graduate program director at Rutgers University, Camden: 12 p.m. and 3 p.m., *National Constitution Center (525 Arch Street)*
- Reconstruction and the 14th Amendment with **Dr. Matthew Pinsker**, associate professor of history and the Pohanka Chair in American Civil War History at Dickenson College: 11 a.m. and 1 p.m., *Congress Hall, Independence National Historical Park (Enter Independence Square at 5th and Chestnut Streets)*
- The 14th Amendment and Landmark Cases with **Dr. Bruce Murphy**, Fred Morgan Kirby Professor of Civil Rights at Lafayette College: 1 p.m. and 2:30 p.m., *National Constitution Center (525 Arch Street)*

Admission during the All-American Celebration and free admission on June 28 includes access to the National Constitution Center's interactive main exhibit, the signature multimedia, theatrical performance of *Freedom Rising* presented in the Sidney Kimmel Theater, and the iconic *Signers' Hall*.

Visitors also have access to the Center's feature exhibits, including *American Treasures: Documenting the Nation's Founding*, an intimate look at the rarest early drafts of the U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights, *Constituting Liberty: From the Declaration to the Bill of Rights*, highlighting the three most

important documents in American history, and the Center’s compelling new exhibit, *Hamilton: The Constitutional Clashes That Shaped a Nation*, which highlights the competing ideas of Alexander Hamilton and his legendary rivals.

### **About the National Constitution Center**

The [National Constitution Center](https://www.constitutioncenter.org) 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](https://www.constitutioncenter.org).

### **About Wawa, Inc.**

Wawa, Inc., a privately held company, began in 1803 as an iron foundry in New Jersey. Toward the end of the 19th Century, owner George Wood took an interest in dairy farming and the family began a small processing plant in Wawa, PA in 1902. The milk business was a huge success, due to its quality, cleanliness and “certified” process. As home delivery of milk declined in the early 1960’s, Grahame Wood, George’s grandson, opened the first Wawa Food Market in 1964 as an outlet for dairy products. Today, Wawa has a chain of more than 800 convenience retail stores (over 500 offering gasoline). Wawa stores are located in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, Florida, and Washington D.C. In 2016 Wawa was recognized in Forbes as one of America’s Best Large Employers and in 2017 Wawa was the recipient of a Silver Plate Award in the category of Retail & Specialty Foodservice by the International Foodservice Manufacturers’ Association. Wawa was also designated as a 2017 Best Place to Work for LGBT Equality by the Human Rights Campaign Foundation.

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