

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACTS: Jenny Parker McCloskey, 215-409-6616

jparker@constitutioncenter.org

Merissa Blum, 215-409-6645 mblum@constitutioncenter.org

RICHARD GERE TO PARTICIPATE IN NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER'S LIBERTY MEDAL HONORING THE DALAI LAMA

Thupten Jinpa and Richie Davidson to Accept Award on Behalf of His Holiness

General Admission Tickets Available October 9, 2015

Philadelphia, PA (October 7, 2015) – Award-winning actor, activist, and philanthropist Richard Gere will participate in the presentation of the National Constitution Center's 2015 Liberty Medal on Monday, October 26, honoring **His Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama of Tibet, Tenzin Gyatso.** In addition, Dr. Thupten Jinpa, the principal English translator to the Dalai Lama, and Dr. Richie Davidson, founder and chair of the Mind and Life Institute, will accept the award on behalf of His Holiness. Kaydor Aukatsang, the Representative of the Dalai Lama to North America, will also be in attendance.

"We are thrilled to be honoring His Holiness the Dalai Lama at what will be an inspiring presentation of the Liberty Medal. We look forward to welcoming representatives of His Holiness and are especially pleased that Mr. Gere – a native Philadelphian – will be part of the evening's festivities," said National Constitution Center President and CEO Jeffrey Rosen.

A limited number of free, general admission tickets will be available on a first-come, first-served basis beginning at **10:00 a.m., Friday, October 9, 2015**, at constitutioncenter.org/libertymedaltickets. Assistance is also available at the Center's helpline, 1-800-439-9835.

Editor's Note: A credential application for reporting media can be found online at constitutioncenter.org/libertymedal/media.html.

Sponsorships and individual tickets to the pre-Ceremony reception and post-Ceremony Gala are currently available for purchase at constitutioncenter.org/libertymedal/support.html.

The 27th annual Liberty Medal Ceremony will take place rain or shine at 5:00 p.m. on **Monday, October 26, 2015,** at the National Constitution Center on Independence National Historical Park in Philadelphia. The event will also be broadcast on local ABC affiliate, WPVI-TV/6abc.

About the Liberty Medal

The Liberty Medal was established in 1988 to commemorate the bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution. Given annually, the medal honors men and women of courage and conviction who strive to secure the blessings of liberty to people around the globe. For more information, visit constitutioncenter.org/libertymedal.

About the National Constitution Center

The National Constitution Center in Philadelphia inspires active 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 non-partisan 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.

###