

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CELEBRATE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY AT THE NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER WITH DISCOUNTED ADMISSION, SERVICE PROJECTS, AND SPECIAL PERFORMANCES ON JANUARY 15

\$5 admission courtesy of Macy's

Philadelphia, PA (January 11, 2018) – The National Constitution Center will honor Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s lifelong dedication to justice, liberty, and service for the greater good on **January 15** with community service projects, special performances, and fun for the whole family. The Center will again join with the <u>Global Citizen's Greater Philadelphia Martin Luther King Day of Service</u> for the daylong commemoration.

In the spirit of service emulated by Dr. King, the National Constitution Center is also organizing the donation of school supplies for local area school children. Now through Martin Luther King Jr. Day on January 15, visitors are encouraged to donate new school supplies, such as pens, pencils, crayons, copy paper, hand sanitizer, folders, and age appropriate books, to the Center's box office. On January 15, the donated supplies will become part of the Center's activities celebrating Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service.

The museum's Martin Luther King Jr. Day programs are part of a series of Macy's Family Days at the National Constitution Center. Admission on January 15 will be \$5, courtesy of Macy's.

Visitors will receive 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, and *Constituting Liberty: From the Declaration to the Bill of Rights*, highlighting the three most important documents in American history.

Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service Programs

Service Project

Book Drive and School Supply Kits Assembling

11 a.m. – 1 p.m., Grand Hall Overlook

The National Constitution Center invites visitors to assist museum staff and Alex Holley, co-host of FOX 29's "Good Day Philadelphia," in assembling school supply kits for local area school children. Kits will be compiled from school supplies that have been donated to the Center in preparation for delivery to Philadelphia classrooms. Visitors can make a donation of new school supplies or age appropriate books to the National Constitution Center's box office through January 15.



The Center is proud to once again partner with <u>Philadelphia READS</u> for the book and school supply drive. The mission of Philadelphia READS is to "raise a city of readers" through quality out of school time programs focused to get children and youth to read on or above grade level by grade 4.

Special Performances

Two of a Kind

11 a.m. and 1 p.m., F.M. Kirby Auditorium

Visitors can sing along with "Two of a Kind," an award-winning, nationally touring, husband-wife duo, during an interactive musical program. Focusing on themes related to Dr. King, the performance will encourage audience participation through songs, sign language, movement, and stories.

"I Have a Dream" Speech

12 p.m. and 2 p.m., F.M. Kirby Auditorium

A diverse ensemble of local actors will join students from local colleges to perform a passionate reading of Dr. King's iconic "I Have a Dream" speech.

Educational Programs and Activities

Day of Service Story Corner

9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m., Grand Hall Lobby

At the National Constitution Center's story corner, museum staff will engage the day's youngest visitors. The Center's staff will read beloved books about Martin Luther King Jr. Day, like *Uncle Willie and the Soup Kitchen* by DyAnne DiSalvo-Ryan.

Arts and Crafts Activity Tables

9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m., Grand Hall Lobby

Visitors can create "I Have a Dream..." mobiles and express their dreams for their communities, the country, and the world.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and His Legacy

10:30 a.m., 12:30 p.m., and 2:30 p.m., Main Exhibit

In this engaging program, visitors can learn about Dr. King's vision of himself as an agent of service, how that understanding led him to the use of nonviolence, and how other leaders from around the world were influenced by his legacy. Visitors will also discover ways they can serve their own communities.

About the National Constitution Center

The <u>National Constitution Center</u> 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.

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