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**YALE'S BRUCE ACKERMAN  
DISCUSSES THE CIVIL RIGHTS "REVOLUTION"  
AT THE NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER**

***Program part of the museum's commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.***

Philadelphia, PA (April 16, 2014) –A half a century ago, the Civil Rights Act of 1964 put an end to an America where schools, restaurants, and restrooms were divided by race. Yale Law School Professor **Bruce Ackerman**, author of a new book on the Civil Rights movement, visits the National Constitution Center on **Wednesday, May 14 at 6:30 p.m.** for a timely discussion with Harvard Law School's **Tomiko Brown-Nagin** and Northwestern University School of Law's **Steven Calabresi**, that will focus on the landmark statutes of the 1960s: the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Voting Rights Act of 1965, and the Fair Housing Act of 1968. The discussion will draw from the third volume of Ackerman's *We the People* series, *The Civil Rights Revolution*. Constitution Center President and CEO Jeffrey Rosen will moderate. The Civil Rights Act of 1964 was signed by President Lyndon B. Johnson on July 2, 1964.

Admission is \$10 for general public; \$7 for members, teachers, and students; and FREE for 1787 Society members. Reservations are recommended and can be made by calling 215-409-6700 or visiting [constitutioncenter.org](http://constitutioncenter.org). Copies of *We the People, Volume 3* will be for sale before and after the program. A book signing with Ackerman will follow the discussion.

Praised as an "erudite and passionately argued book" by *Kirkus Reviews*, "this fascinating" work "weaves political theory with historical detail, explaining how the civil rights movement evolved from revolution to mass movement and then to statutory law (*Library Journal*). It is the "most ambitious" recent effort to rethink the constitutional process through which the civil rights movement engaged the three branches of

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government to win sweeping changes for African Americans and other minorities (*The Atlantic*). Ackerman's reassessment casts new light on the distinctive contributions of leaders like Everett Dirksen, Hubert Humphrey, Lyndon Johnson, Martin Luther King, Jr., and Richard Nixon to one of the great transformations of American history.

[Bruce Ackerman](#) is Sterling Professor of Law and Political Science at Yale, and the author of 15 books that have had a broad influence in political philosophy, constitutional law, and public policy. His major works include *Social Justice in the Liberal State* and his multivolume constitutional history, *We the People*. His most recent books are *The Decline and Fall of the American Republic* (2010), *The Failure of the Founding Fathers* (2005), and *Before the Next Attack* (2006). His book, *The Stakeholder Society* (with Anne Alstott), served as a basis for Tony Blair's introduction of child investment accounts in the United Kingdom. Ackerman is a member of the American Law Institute and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He is a Commander of the French Order of Merit, and the recipient of the American Philosophical Society's Henry Phillips Prize for Lifetime Achievement in Jurisprudence. He received his B.A. from Harvard University and his LL.B from Yale Law School.

[Tomiko Brown-Nagin](#) is an awarding-winning historian and expert in constitutional law. Her 2011 book, *Courage to Dissent: Atlanta and the Long History of the Civil Rights Movement*, won the Bancroft Prize in U.S. History, the highest honor awarded annually to a work in the field of history. Prior to joining the Harvard faculty, Brown-Nagin held joint appointments in law and history at the University of Virginia and at Washington University. Before entering academia, Brown-Nagin clerked for the Honorable Robert L. Carter of the U. S. District Court, Southern District of New York, and for the Honorable Jane Roth of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit. Brown-Nagin earned a doctorate in history from Duke, a law degree from Yale, where she served as an editor of the Yale Law Journal, and a B.A. in history, *summa cum laude*, from Furman University. Brown-Nagin currently is at work on two major projects, an article about law and inequality 50 years after the passage of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and a biography of the Honorable Constance Baker Motley.

[Steven Calabresi](#) is a professor of Law at Northwestern University and is a graduate of Yale Law School (1983) and Yale College (1980). Calabresi was a Scholar in Residence

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at Harvard Law School from 2003 – 2005, and he has been a visiting professor of Political Science at Brown University since 2010. He was also a visiting professor at Yale Law School in the fall of 2013. Calabresi served as a law clerk to U.S. Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia and for Judge Robert H. Bork and Judge Ralph K. Winter of the U.S. Court of Appeals. He has served in the Reagan and George H.W. Bush administrations. In 1982, Calabresi co-founded The Federalist Society for Law & Public Policy Studies. He is the author of *The Unitary Executive: Presidential Power from Washington to Bush* (2008).

#### About the National Constitution Center

The [National Constitution Center](#) in Philadelphia is the Museum of We the People, America's Town Hall, and a Headquarters for Civic Education. As the **Museum of We the People**, the National Constitution Center brings the United States Constitution to life for visitors of all ages and inspires active citizenship by celebrating the American constitutional tradition. The museum features interactive exhibits, engaging theatrical performances, and original documents of freedom. As the only institution established by Congress to “disseminate information about the United States Constitution on a non-partisan basis,” the National Constitution Center serves as a **Headquarters for Civic Education**—offering cutting-edge learning resources including the premier online Interactive Constitution. As **America's Town Hall**, the National Constitution Center hosts timely constitutional conversations uniting distinguished leaders, scholars, authors, and journalists from across the political spectrum. For more information, call 215-409-6700 or visit [constitutioncenter.org](http://constitutioncenter.org).

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