

# NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER

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## **NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR ROBERT DRAPER TAKES YOU INSIDE THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AT THE NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER**

Philadelphia, PA (April 26, 2012) – Celebrated journalist and bestselling author **Robert Draper** joins the National Constitution Center on **Monday, May 14 at 6:30 p.m.** for an eye-opening look inside his new book *Do Not Ask What Good We Do: Inside the U.S. House of Representatives*. With a Republican House majority serving as the party's point of the spear against the Obama administration, and a Democratic minority determined to regain power, Draper's portrait illuminates inside-the-beltway dysfunction and suggests why Americans have lost faith in their government institutions. *Washington Post* congressional correspondent Paul Kane will moderate this timely discussion.

Admission is \$7 for members, students and teachers; \$10 for non-members; and FREE for 1787 Society members. Reservations are required and can be made online at [www.constitutioncenter.org](http://www.constitutioncenter.org) or by calling 215.409.6700. *This event is part of Election 2012, the Center's programming series on the key issues facing Americans during this important election year.*

Following the history-making 2010 midterm elections that ushered in 87 freshmen Republicans, Robert Draper followed several representatives from both sides of the aisle through a tumultuous legislative session marked by bitter partisan divisions and public approval at a record low. In fact, according to the 2011 National Constitution Center-Associated Press poll, 57% of Americans have little or no confidence in the nation's legislative branch.

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## ADD ONE/ROBERT DRAPER

Between November 2010 and December 2011, Draper interviewed over 50 House members and conducted more than 300 total interviews. The book, which draws its title from a quote by U.S. Representative Fisher Ames, a member of the First Federal Congress, explores the complex relationship between established House Republican leaders and the Tea Party freshmen who rode into Washington on the midterm election wave.

Robert Draper is a contributing writer for *The New York Times Magazine* and *National Geographic* and is a correspondent for GQ. He is the author of several books, including the *New York Times* bestseller *Dead Certain: The Presidency of George W. Bush*.

Paul Kane covers Congress for *The Washington Post*. A winner of the Everett McKinley Dirksen Award for Distinguished Reporting of Congress for a series of stories about lawmakers and their connection to non-profits, Kane has covered the landmark health care law, last summer's debt showdown and the rise of the Tea Party. He has worked for *Roll Call*, the English language *China Daily*, and several other papers.

The National Constitution Center is the first and only nonprofit, nonpartisan institution devoted to the most powerful vision of freedom ever expressed: the U.S. Constitution. Located on Independence Mall in Historic Philadelphia, the birthplace of American freedom, the Center illuminates constitutional ideals and inspires active citizenship through a state-of-the-art museum experience, including hundreds of interactive exhibits, films and rare artifacts; must-see feature exhibitions; the internationally acclaimed, 360-degree theatrical production *Freedom Rising*; and the iconic *Signers' Hall*, where visitors can sign the Constitution alongside 42 life-size, bronze statues of the Founding Fathers. As America's forum for constitutional dialogue, the Center engages diverse, distinguished leaders of government, public policy, journalism and scholarship in timely public discussions and debates. The Center also houses the Annenberg Center for Education and Outreach, the national hub for constitutional education, which offers cutting-edge civic learning resources both onsite and online. Freedom is calling. Answer it at the National Constitution Center. For more information, call 215.409.6700 or visit [www.constitutioncenter.org](http://www.constitutioncenter.org).

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