

NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NOTABLES SHARE SIX-WORD STUMP SPEECHES DURING NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER/SMITH MAGAZINE STORY SHOW

Event is part of Address America: Your Six-Word Stump Speech Election 2012 Initiative

Philadelphia, PA (October 8, 2012) – Just days before the presidential election, the **National Constitution Center** and **SMITH Magazine** welcome several movers and shakers in politics, the media, and the arts & culture community to take the stage in a live production of the Six-Word Memoir Project. The participants will offer their thoughtful and entertaining personal take on politics in America, starting with six words and then opening their political tales into longer backstories. At the conclusion, audience members will be invited to take the stage to share their own six-word stump speeches. Story Show celebrity participants include **Jane Golden**, Executive Director for the City of Philadelphia Mural Arts Program; **Jehmu Greene**, political commentator and Fox News contributor; **Karen Gross**, cabaret singer, songwriter, and comedienne; **Mark Katz**, Clinton White House speechwriter and humorist; **Pierre Robert**, WMMR-FM radio host; and **Joey Sweeney**, Co-founder and Editor of Philebrity.com. **Larry Smith**, founder and editor of SMITH Magazine, will serve as master of ceremonies. This lively and entertaining event will take place on **Monday, October 29, 2012 at 6:30 p.m.**

Admission is \$7 for members, students, and teachers; \$10 for non-members; and free for 1787 members. A cash bar also will be available to purchase refreshments. Reservations are required and can be made online at www.constitutioncenter.org or by calling 215.409.6700.

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ADD ONE/SIX-WORD STORY SLAM

Throughout the 2012 presidential race, the National Constitution Center and SMITH Magazine have given Americans a platform to share their ideas for our nation's future in the form of a six-word stump speech. To date, more than 26,000 entries have been submitted to **Address America: Your Six-Word Stump Speech** on site at the Center and online at addressamerica.constitutioncenter.org. Pennsylvania politicians including current Pennsylvania Governor Tom Corbett, former Pennsylvania Governor Edward G. Rendell, and Senator Robert P. Casey Jr. also have participated in the project. Entries have been both humorous and serious and have focused on issues from the economy to education to the environment:

- Education is key to our future.
- Great leaders come from great moms.
- Stop making it difficult to vote.
- A new president equals new jobs.
- Paging Dr. Drew, government needs rehab.
- Politicians should go far, far away.

In addition, the project traveled to the Republican and Democratic National Conventions, where participants shared their six-word stump speeches on video (visit blog.constitutioncenter.org to view daily highlight reels). The Center also developed curriculum that enables teachers to incorporate *Address America* into the classroom.

The project is supported by the International Coalition of Sites of Conscience, of which the Center is a member.

Since the Mural Arts Program began in 1984 as a component of the Philadelphia Anti-Graffiti Network, **Jane Golden** has been its driving force, overseeing its growth from a small city agency into the nation's largest mural program, a catalyst for positive social change, and a model for community development across the country and around the globe. Under Golden's direction – in partnership with communities, grassroots organizations, city agencies, schools, and philanthropies – the Mural Arts Program has created over 3,000 landmark works of public art, bringing international recognition to Philadelphia as the “City of Murals.”

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ADD TWO/SIX-WORD STORY SLAM

As owner of JSG Strategies, **Jehmu Greene** provides advocacy and media consulting to campaigns, non-profits, corporations, and celebrities. She also serves as a Fox News contributor, providing analysis and opinion. A widely sought-after speaker, Greene's commentary has been featured on "The Daily Show" and all major news networks; online in the Huffington Post; and in print in *The New York Times*, *Washington Post*, *USA Today* and *Essence* magazine.

Called a "queen of sophisticated cabaret with a naughty streak" by the *Philadelphia City Paper*, **Karen Gross** is at the forefront of Philadelphia's cabaret scene and performs at renowned music venues and private events including Lincoln Center and Don't Tell Mama in New York City, the Kimmel Center and the Philadelphia Museum of Art in Philadelphia, and – most recently – at an exclusive party launching the sale of Frank Sinatra's onetime NYC penthouse. As a singer-songwriter, her original music earns airplay on WXPB radio among other stations, and she has been featured extensively in *The Philadelphia Inquirer* and other media outlets. She has been featured as a special guest for legendary comedian Robert Klein.

Mark Katz's career began in journalism as a news clerk in the Washington bureau of *The New York Times*. From 1993-2000, he was a creative consultant to the Democratic National Committee who assisted then-President Bill Clinton with his annual series of humor speeches to the Washington Press Corps. Annual speeches included remarks at the White House Correspondents Dinner, the Gridiron Club, and the Alfalfa Club. Katz also has written humorous speeches for, among others, then-Vice President Al Gore, James Wolfensohn of World Bank, Madeline Albright, Tom Freston, and Barbra Streisand. Katz's humor essays have been published in *TIME* magazine, *The New Yorker*, *The Washington Post*, and *Washington Monthly*, and he is an occasional op-ed contributor to *The New York Times* and a contributor to *The Daily Beast*.

One of the longest running rock 'n' roll music radio personalities, **Pierre Robert** recently celebrated his 30th anniversary with Philadelphia radio station WMMR. Robert has interviewed rock greats of varying decades from the Rolling Stones and Graham Nash to Jon Bon Jovi, Bono, and Stone Temple Pilots.

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ADD THREE/SIX-WORD STORY SLAM

Since 2004, **Joey Sweeney** has blogged about Philadelphia's media, gossip, nightlife, sports, and political scenes as co-founder and editor Philebrity.com. Previously, Sweeney spent a seven-year stint as a writer, columnist, and editor with *Philadelphia Weekly*. His work earned him several awards, including top honors for music criticism from the Association of Alternative Newsweeklies. An established musician, Sweeney currently hosts a show on WXPB called "Philebrity Radio."

Larry Smith is the founder and editor of SMITH Magazine, and its younger cousin, SMITH Teens. He has spoken on the power of personal storytelling, how to engage an audience, and how a simple idea can make a big difference at companies such as ESPN, Google, Dell, and Shutterstock. Prior to launching SMITH, he was the articles editor of *Men's Journal*, and has been the executive editor of *Yahoo! Internet Life*, senior editor at *ESPN The Magazine*, a founding editor of *P.O.V.*, and editor-in-chief of its sister publication, *EGG*, as well as an editor of *Might* magazine.

About the International Coalition of Sites of Conscience

The International Coalition of Sites of Conscience is a worldwide network of "Sites of Conscience" – historic sites, museums and initiatives that activate the power of places of memory to engage the public with a deeper understanding of the past and inspire action to shape a just future. The Coalition provides member sites with direct funding for civic engagement programs, organizes learning exchanges ranging from one-on-one collaborations to international conferences, and conducts strategic advocacy for sites and the Sites of Conscience movement. Learn more at www.sitesofconscience.org.

About SMITH Magazine

Founded in January 2006 with the tagline, "Everyone has a story. What's yours?" SMITH Magazine has become a leader in personal storytelling. SMITH is home of the Six-Word Memoir® project, now a bestselling book series, calendar, board game, live event series and global phenomenon that's spread to classrooms and boardrooms. For more information, visit www.smithmag.net.

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ADD FOUR/SIX-WORD STORY SLAM

About the National Constitution Center

The National Constitution Center is the first and only nonprofit, nonpartisan institution devoted to the most powerful vision of human 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.

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