

NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER PRESENTS SPECIAL FAMILY EVENTS IN CONJUNCTION WITH *DIANA: A CELEBRATION*

Philadelphia, PA – Visitors to the National Constitution Center will have the chance to learn about the differences and similarities between the governments of America and Britain, what life is like as a member of the Royal Family, Diana’s civic accomplishments, and more during special public programs held in conjunction with *Diana: A Celebration*. Events include:

A British Invasion!

Friday, October 2 – Sunday, October 4, 2009, 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
FREE with museum admission

Visitors can explore America’s fascinating relationship with England and the impact of the British Monarchy on our government and culture. Guests will discover which current cultural traditions stemmed from practices our Founding Fathers learned from the British in the 1700s. Participants will also learn more about pop culture icons from Shakespeare to The Beatles, who crossed the pond and changed our perspective on music, movies, literature, and more. During special craft activities and demonstrations, visitors can learn how the BBC changed international news, make Union Jack flags, and even play Beatles Rock Band.

An Enchanted Masquerade

Saturday, October 24, 2009, 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
FREE with museum admission

The National Constitution Center invites visitors to a Halloween celebration fit for a king and queen! Guests are encouraged to come dressed in their royal best in order to be crowned “King or Queen for the Day” during a costume contest at 1:00 p.m. (for children ages 12 and under only). The winner will receive a Freedom Family Membership to the Center and a special goodie bag. Once visitors look the part, they can then learn how to act like royalty by taking ballroom dancing lessons from Society Hill Dance Academy and etiquette classes by Charm, held from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. and from 1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m. Visitors can also create decorative masks, have their faces painted, and get fitted for a crown or tiara. In addition, children can explore the Center’s main exhibition, *The Story of We the People*, during a special scavenger hunt from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., for the chance to win Halloween prizes and treats.

-MORE-

ADD ONE/DIANA PUBLIC PROGRAMS

A Majestic Winter Wonderland

Saturday, December 26, 2009 – Friday, January 1, 2010, 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

FREE with museum admission

Celebrate the start of the winter season on both sides of the pond! Visitors can cast a vote in the 3rd annual Gingerbread White House contest, featuring gingerbread models of both the White House and Buckingham Palace, created by children ages 12 and under. During a special presentation, guests can also learn about the similarities and differences between White House holiday traditions and the winter celebrations at Buckingham Palace. At craft activity tables, children can make their own tiaras and befeater hats.

In addition to these special events, daily tours and programs are also available:

Diana: A Celebration Audio Tour

Featuring an introduction from Charles Spencer, Diana's brother, the *Diana: A Celebration* iPod audio tour tells the stories behind some of the most incredible artifacts and personal possessions on display in the exhibition, highlighting pieces from various aspects of Diana's life, including her family history, childhood, marriage, humanitarianism, and love of fashion. The *Diana: A Celebration* audio tour costs \$5. It was produced in partnership with Drexel University's School of Education.

Diana: A Celebration Guided Tour

Groups can take a guided tour of *Diana: A Celebration* with a museum demonstrator to get a behind-the-scenes look at the award-winning exhibition. Along the way, visitors will learn stories behind the artifacts, as well as gain insight into the structure of both the British and U.S. governments. Groups (maximum of 40 people) interested in booking a tour should call 215.409.6800. Tours cost \$300.

Special Daily Presentation: Parliament or Republic?

During this interactive presentation, visitors will discover the similarities and differences between the governments of the United States and Britain. Guests will learn about Britain's founding documents, including the Magna Carta, and how it influenced the U.S. Constitution. The presentation is offered daily and is free with museum admission. Visitors should check the daily programs sheet upon arrival for details and times.

Special Theatrical Experience

Beginning November 2, 2009 and running through December 31, 2009, the Center will feature a special theatrical experience inside the *Diana: A Celebration* exhibition, exploring Diana's work as a humanitarian and her support of the arts. The show will run Tuesday through Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., twice an hour, and Sundays from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., twice an hour.

-MORE-

ADD TWO/DIANA PUBLIC PROGRAMS

From October 2 through December 31, 2009, the National Constitution Center will host the international traveling exhibition, *Diana: A Celebration*, providing an opportunity for visitors to learn more about the life and work of the Princess of Wales. The exhibition is on loan from the Althorp Estate, the Spencer Family's 500-year-old ancestral home in England.

Admission to *Diana: A Celebration* is \$23 for adults, \$21 for seniors ages 65 and up, and \$15 for children ages 4-12. Active military personnel and children ages 3 and under are free. Group rates are also available. Admission to the Center's main exhibition, *The Story of We the People*, including the award-winning theater production "Freedom Rising", is included. iPod audio tours cost an additional \$5. For ticket information, call 215.409.6700 or visit www.constitutioncenter.org.

Diana: A Celebration is produced by Arts and Exhibitions International, in association with the Althorp Estate, Cultural Networks International Inc. The exhibition is presented locally by Macy's, and CBS 3 and The CW Philly are the official media partners. CBS 3 (KYW-TV) and The CW Philly 57 (WPSG-TV) are part of CBS Television Stations, a division of CBS Corporation.

The National Constitution Center, located at 525 Arch St. on Philadelphia's Independence Mall, is an independent, nonpartisan, nonprofit organization dedicated to increasing public understanding of the U.S. Constitution and the ideas and values it represents. The Center serves as a museum, an education center, and a forum for debate on constitutional issues. The museum dramatically tells the story of the Constitution from Revolutionary times to the present through more than 100 interactive, multimedia exhibits, film, photographs, text, sculpture and artifacts, and features a powerful, award-winning theatrical performance, "Freedom Rising". The Center also houses the Annenberg Center for Education and Outreach, which serves as the hub for national constitutional education. For more information, call 215.409.6700 or visit www.constitutioncenter.org.

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