

# NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER

525 Arch Street | Independence Mall  
Philadelphia | PA 19106 | T 215 409 6600 | F 215 409 6650  
[www.constitutioncenter.org](http://www.constitutioncenter.org)

## DANIEL OKRENT BIO

Daniel Okrent is the author of *Last Call: The Rise and Fall of Prohibition*. He began working on *Last Call* shortly before he concluded his term as the first public editor of the *New York Times* in 2005. Prior to his *New York Times* appointment, Okrent served as Editor-at-Large of Time Inc., where he also previously served as the company's editor of new media and as managing editor of *Life* magazine.

Prior to arriving at Time Inc., Okrent worked extensively in book and magazine publishing in editorial and executive positions. In the book industry, he was an editor at Alfred A. Knopf, Inc. and at the Viking Press, as well as editor-in-chief of general books at Harcourt Brace, Inc. In magazines, he was editor and co-founder of *New England Monthly*.

As a writer, he has published five books, among them *Great Fortune: The Epic of Rockefeller Center*, a finalist for the 2004 Pulitzer Prize in history. He has appeared as an actor in two feature films, Woody Allen's *Sweet and Lowdown* and Lasse Hallstrom's *The Hoax*. On television, he was a featured commentator on Ken Burns' PBS series *Baseball*, and he was senior creative consultant on Burns' three-part documentary film series *Prohibition*.

Formerly a director of Lands' End, Inc., Okrent currently sits on the board of TESSCO Technologies Inc. He is also a former chairman of the National Portrait Gallery, on whose board he served from 2001-2009, and is current a trustee of the Cooper Union for the Advancement of Science and Art.

In the 2009-2010 academic year, Okrent was the Edward R. Murrow Visiting Lecturer on Press, Politics, and Policy at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard, where he had been a Fellow in 2006. In the 1999-2000 academic year, he was the Hearst Foundation Visiting Fellow in New Media at the Columbia University School of Journalism. He is currently a retained consultant to Time Inc.

A native of Detroit and a graduate of the University of Michigan, Okrent lives in Manhattan and on Cape Cod with his wife, poet Rebecca Okrent. They have two adult children.