

# NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER

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## SUPREME COURT JUSTICE STEPHEN BREYER SPEAKS ON THE SUPREME COURT'S ROLE AND FUTURE AT THE NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER

Philadelphia, PA (September 29, 2010) – Supreme Court Justice **Stephen Breyer** will join the National Constitution Center on Tuesday, October 19, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. to discuss his new book, *Making Our Democracy Work: A Judge's View*, which examines the role and future of the Supreme Court in American democracy. **Adam Liptak**, Supreme Court correspondent for the *New York Times*, will facilitate the discussion. Admission is free, but reservations are required and can be made by calling 215.409.6700.

The Supreme Court is one of the most extraordinary institutions in our system of government. Charged with the responsibility of interpreting the Constitution, the nine unelected justices of the Court have the power to strike down laws enacted by our elected representatives. In *Making Our Democracy Work*, Justice Breyer discusses the Court's need to maintain the public's confidence by pragmatically applying unchanging constitutional values to ever-changing circumstances. He also explores why the public accepts the Court's decisions as legitimate and follows them, even when those decisions are highly unpopular; what the Court must do to safeguard the trust of the American people; and how the Court can help make our democracy work.

**Stephen Breyer** is an associate justice of the Supreme Court of the United States. He previously served as Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals for the First Circuit. Before

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joining the Supreme Court, Justice Breyer was a professor of law at the Harvard Law School, and taught as a visiting professor at the College of Law, Sydney, University of Rome, and Tulane University Law School. Early in his career, he clerked for Associate Justice Arthur Goldberg, and served as an assistant special prosecutor on the Watergate Special Prosecution Force.

**Adam Liptak** is the Supreme Court correspondent for the *New York Times*, and writes the “Sidebar” column on legal affairs. In 2009, Liptak was a Pulitzer Prize finalist in explanatory reporting. He received his law degree from Yale Law School and practiced law prior to becoming a journalist. Liptak has taught media law at the Columbia University School of Journalism, U.C.L.A. Law School, and Yale Law School.

A book sale and signing will follow the program, courtesy of Joseph Fox Bookshop.

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. Also, as a nonpartisan forum for constitutional discourse, the Center presents – without endorsement – programs that contain diverse viewpoints on a broad range of issues. For more information, call 215.409.6700 or visit [www.constitutioncenter.org](http://www.constitutioncenter.org).

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