

## NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER

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### ANTHONY LEWIS ON THE FIRST AMENDMENT AT THE NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER

Philadelphia, PA (December 27, 2007) – The National Constitution Center, in partnership with the Freedom to Read Foundation, welcomes two-time Pulitzer Prize winner **Anthony Lewis**, one of the country's most esteemed experts on the First Amendment and the author of the classic, *Gideon's Trumpet*, to share his latest work, *Freedom for the Thought That We Hate*, on the importance of freedom of expression. This program will take place on Monday, January 14, 2008 at 6:30 p.m. Admission is \$12 for Constitution Center and Freedom to Read Foundation members, \$15 for non-members, and \$6 for K-12 students and teachers. Reservations are required and can be made at [www.constitutioncenter.org](http://www.constitutioncenter.org) or by calling 215.409.6700.

In *Freedom for the Thought That We Hate*, Lewis tells the story of how the right of free expression evolved along with our nation and makes a compelling case for the adaptability of our Constitution. Lewis will discuss how our First Amendment rights were created and reveal a story of hard choices surrounding one of America's great founding ideas.

Anthony Lewis was a columnist for the *New York Times* op-ed page from 1969 through 2001. He has taught at Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism since the mid-1970s, and since 1983, has been the James Madison Visiting Professor at Columbia University. Lewis lectured at Harvard University from 1974 to 1989, and has been a visiting lecturer at several other colleges and universities. His previous books are *Gideon's Trumpet*, which has sold nearly a million copies in over forty years in print; *Portrait of a Decade*; and *Make No Law: The Sullivan Case and the First Amendment*.

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ADD ONE/ANTHONY LEWIS

Chris Finan, president of the American Booksellers Foundation for Free Expression, will moderate this program. Finan has been involved in the fight against censorship since 1982. He is chair of the National Coalition Against Censorship and a trustee of the Freedom to Read Foundation. After working as a newspaper reporter, he studied American history at Columbia University, where he received his Ph.D. in 1992. His latest book is *From the Palmer Raids to the PATRIOT Act: A History of the Fight for Free Speech in America*.

This program is presented in partnership with the Freedom to Read Foundation (FTRF), a sister organization of the American Library Association, which was founded in 1969 to promote and defend the right of individuals, to freely express ideas, and to access information in libraries and elsewhere. FTRF fulfills its mission through the disbursement of grants to individuals and groups, primarily for the purpose of aiding them in litigation, and through direct participation in litigation dealing with freedom of speech and of the press.

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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