

NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER

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NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER WELCOMES MATHILDA McCOMMON AND BI JEAN NGO AS NEW “FREEDOM RISING” ACTORS

PHILADELPHIA, PA (October 8, 2007) – The National Constitution Center announces the addition of **Mathilda McCommon** and **Bi Jean Ngo** to its cast of actors who perform in the Center’s signature “Freedom Rising” theater show.

Mathilda McCommon is a native of Louisville, Kentucky, where she performed with The Bunbury Theatre, Pleiades Theatre Company, and Actors Theatre of Louisville. She was also an active board member and company member of the Louisville Repertory Company. McCommon served as a 2005-2006 Arden Theatre Apprentice, where she had the opportunity to work with some of Philadelphia’s finest actors. In addition, she has worked at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival and was the 2007 Fringe Festival Coordinator for The Live Arts and Philly Fringe. McCommon currently resides in the Fishtown section of Philadelphia.

Bi Jean Ngo is a local Philadelphia actor. She serves as a program actor for Philadelphia Young Playwrights. Ngo earned her undergraduate degree in film and television at Boston University, and her MFA at the Actors Studio Drama School in New York. She currently resides in the Rittenhouse section of Philadelphia.

“Freedom Rising” is an award-winning, state-of-the-art multi-media theater experience dedicated to connecting visitors—in a direct, engaging, and unforgettable way—with the story of the U.S. Constitution. This 345-seat theater-in-the-round production incorporates one actor, 360° projection, surprise scenic elements, theatrical-lighting, and a dynamic

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ADD ONE/NEW FREEDOM RISING ACTORS

surround soundtrack. The production creates a magical environment in which visitors come to see themselves as a force in the life of the Constitution and the Constitution as an on-going force in all our lives in this country. "Freedom Rising" is performed every 30 minutes during museum hours, and is free with regular museum admission of \$12 for adults, \$11 for seniors ages 65 and up, and \$8 for children ages 4-12. Active military personnel and children ages 3 and under are free.

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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