

# NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER HOSTS SPECIAL PROGRAMS AND EVENTS CELEBRATING BRUCE SPRINGSTEEN AND THE FIRST AMENDMENT

Philadelphia, PA – In connection with the must-see exhibition *From Asbury Park to the Promised Land: The Life and Music of Bruce Springsteen*, visitors of all ages can celebrate freedom of expression during interactive programs and special events at the National Constitution Center.

### Special Events

#### ***Greetings from Asbury Park: Opening Celebration***

**Wednesday, February 15, 2012, 5:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.**

**Please note: Tickets to this event are now SOLD OUT**

In homage to the city where Springsteen got his start, this festive opening party features boardwalk-themed décor and festivities; nostalgic summertime treats including hot dogs, boardwalk fries, popcorn, and salt water taffy; live musical performances; and the exclusive chance to tour *From Asbury Park to the Promised Land* before it opens to the public. Guests also can enjoy a special presentation of framed, large-scale original works by New Jersey-based photographers Frank Stefanko and Danny Clinch from “Darkness to a Dream,” an exhibition at New York’s Morrison Hotel Gallery. Stefanko is famous for shooting the cover art for *Darkness on the Edge of Town* and *The River*, while the covers of *The Seeger Sessions*, *The Rising*, and *Working on a Dream* were taken by Clinch. Original, signed prints by both photographers will be available for purchase in the museum gift shop throughout the run of the exhibition.

#### ***Educator Open House***

**Thursday, February 16, 2012, 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.**

**FREE; reservations encouraged at 215.409.6700**

Educators will experience the Center’s innovative programs in order to enhance their next class visit and learn about professional development opportunities at the Center and partner sites. Participants will receive free materials for the classroom and admission to *From Asbury Park to the Promised Land: The Life and Music of Bruce Springsteen*. Educators also will have the opportunity to chat with Rock and Roll Hall of Fame Vice President of Exhibitions and Curatorial Affairs Jim Henke and enjoy

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## ADD ONE/SPRINGSTEEN PROGRAMS

performances by students from Philadelphia's School of Rock. The Center offers pre-, post-, and on-site lessons for every grade level, aligned with national standards. These lessons are available for download from [www.constitutioncenter.org](http://www.constitutioncenter.org) under the "Educator Resources" tab.

### ***From Asbury Park to the Promised Land Opening Weekend***

**Friday, February 17, 2012, 9:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., Saturday, February 18, 2012, 9:30 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., Sunday, February 19, 2012, 9:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.**

**FREE with admission**

The National Constitution Center will celebrate the public opening of *From Asbury Park to the Promised Land: The Life and Music of Bruce Springsteen* with a ribbon cutting ceremony on Friday, February 17, 2012 at 9:45 a.m. Legendary Philadelphia radio personality Pierre Robert of WMMR will broadcast live from the Center that day from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Throughout the weekend, guests also can participate in activities and programs that celebrate the American spirit.

### ***"Hungry Heart" Food Drive***

**Thursday, March 1 – Saturday, March 31, 2012**

In partnership with CBS 3 and Philabundance, the Delaware Valley's largest hunger relief organization, the National Constitution Center will collect non-perishable food items as part of the Bruce Springsteen-inspired "Hungry Heart" Food Drive. Throughout the month of March, visitors can bring in a canned food donation and receive \$2 off admission to *From Asbury Park to the Promised Land: The Life and Music of Bruce Springsteen*. An advocate for eliminating hunger, Springsteen has been a supporter of the Philabundance organization.

### ***"Best of Springsteen" Ballot Box***

**Thursday, March 1 – Friday, June 22, 2012**

Throughout the spring, National Constitution Center guests are invited to vote for their favorite Springsteen song as part of the "Best of Springsteen" Ballot Box contest. The songs will be included in a Fourth of July "Best of Springsteen" countdown broadcast on Philadelphia radio station WXPB 88.5 FM. Voters can choose their top five favorite Springsteen studio album tracks from his 200+ song catalog to be considered for the countdown. Voting will take place at the National Constitution Center and online at XPN.org. Those who enter will be placed in a drawing to win an iPad fully loaded with all of Springsteen's studio albums.

### ***The Promise: The Making of Darkness on the Edge of Town***

**Wednesday, March 14, 2012, 5:00 – 8:00 p.m.**

**\$20 for non-members, \$15 for members; includes exhibition access**

**Reservations required at 215.409.6700**

The Center will stay open late to host a screening of the Springsteen documentary *The Promise: The Making of Darkness on the Edge of Town*. Directed by Grammy® and Emmy®-winning filmmaker Thom Zimny, the ninety-minute film combines never-before-seen footage of Springsteen and the E Street Band shot between 1976 and 1978, including home rehearsals and studio sessions with more recent interviews with Springsteen, E Street Band members, manager Jon Landau, former-manager Mike

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## ADD TWO/SPRINGSTEEN PROGRAMS

Appel, and others closely involved in the making of the record. Concessions will be available. The event includes evening access to *From Asbury Park to the Promised Land*.

### ***Spring Break: Freedom of Expression***

**Monday, April 2, 2012 – Sunday, April 15, 2012**

**FREE with admission**

During spring break, children and their families can explore how our constitutional right to freedom of expression has allowed artists and musicians, like Bruce Springsteen, to inspire social change through words and music. In partnership with the Philadelphia Folksong Society's Philadelphia Music Co-op, the National Constitution Center will present a daily lineup of local artists and performers in the Center's Grand Hall Lobby who will present works inspired by Bruce Springsteen. In addition, guests can participate in a variety of music-inspired interactive programs, including songwriting, harmonica workshops, and more!

### ***Glory Days: Throwback to the '80s Party***

**Thursday, April 26, 2012, 5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.**

**\$35 for non-members, \$30 for members; includes exhibition access as well as drinks and light fare**

**Ages 21+; reservations required at 215.409.6700**

Celebrate the 1980s – the decade when Springsteen released his album *Born in the U.S.A.*, which featured seven hit singles including "Glory Days." Guests can enjoy food, drinks, live musical performances and access to *From Asbury Park to the Promised Land: The Life and Music of Bruce Springsteen*.

### ***One Day University: Bruce Springsteen's American Vision***

**Saturday, May 5, 2012, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.**

**\$89; includes exhibition access**

**Reservations required at [www.onedayu.com](http://www.onedayu.com)**

Dr. Louis Masur, author of *Runaway Dream: Born to Run and Bruce Springsteen's American Vision* and professor at Trinity College in Hartford, CT, will deliver a rousing lecture that places the music of Bruce Springsteen in a broader cultural context. Springsteen is part of a long tradition of American songwriters who have given thought to the meaning of the American dream, and his work connects to some of the most fundamental issues in our culture: the question of community, the place of faith in our lives, the nature of work, the dream of escape, and the search for love. Participants will examine how Springsteen delivers on these themes both lyrically and musically, how his vision has shifted over time, and how rock 'n' roll has served as an agent of change.

### ***Who Do I Think I Am? A Portrait of a Journey***

**Wednesday, May 23, 2012, 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.**

**\$20 for non-members, \$15 for members; includes exhibition access**

**Reservations required at 215.409.6700**

A legendary musician and dramatic stage performer in his own right, Clarence Clemons was an integral and beloved member of the E Street Band. The Center will pay homage to the late Clemons during a special screening of *Who Do I Think I Am? A Portrait of a Journey*. Directed by Nick Mead, the film follows Clemons during multiple trips to China to find himself and explore a land where no one knew who he was. The original 60-

## ADD THREE/SPRINGSTEEN PROGRAMS

minute film debuted at the Garden State Film Festival earlier this year. Prior to Clemons' death, Mead had worked with him on a new version featuring an additional 15 minutes of footage. Now, for the first time, the public can see the 75-minute version of the documentary at the National Constitution Center. Mead will attend the screening and participate in a special Q & A session. Concessions will be available. The event includes evening access to *From Asbury Park to the Promised Land*.

### ***Independence Day: Fourth of July Kick-off Party***

**Thursday, June 28, 2012, 5:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.**

**\$35 for non-members, \$30 for members; includes exhibition access as well as drinks and light fare**

**Ages 21+; reservations required at 215.409.6700**

Many summer memories are created on the boardwalk. Guests looking to start the July 4<sup>th</sup> weekend early won't want to miss the Center's "Independence Day" party. The Center's picturesque outdoor terrace will be transformed into a Jersey boardwalk. The party will include all-American fare, drinks, live musical performances and access to *From Asbury Park to the Promised Land: The Life and Music of Bruce Springsteen*.

### ***\$5 After 5 p.m. Series***

**Thursday evenings from June 28, 2012 – August 30, 2012, 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.**

**(4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. only on June 28, 2012)**

**\$5 general admission, plus \$5 (children) and \$10 (adult) for access to *From Asbury Park to the Promised Land***

The Center's Grand Hall Lobby will take on the look of a New Jersey boardwalk during extended hours from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Thursdays throughout the summer. For only \$5, visitors can enjoy the Center's main exhibition *The Story of We the People*; the award-winning theater production *Freedom Rising* (show times at 5:00 p.m., 6:00 p.m., and 7:00 p.m.); and an array of interactive activities, guided tours, and special programs. For an additional cost, visitors also can enjoy the feature exhibition *From Asbury Park to the Promised Land*.

### ***"Best of Springsteen" Countdown***

**Wednesday, July 4, 2012**

Tune in as local Philadelphia radio station WXPB 88.5 FM counts down the "Best of Springsteen." The broadcast will feature the top 88 Springsteen studio album songs of all time, as voted on by National Constitution Center guests and XPN listeners.

### ***Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band: Blood Brothers***

**Wednesday, August 15, 2012, 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.**

**\$20 for non-members, \$15 for members; includes exhibition access**

**Reservations required at 215.409.6700**

Guests can view the documentary *Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band: Blood Brothers* by filmmaker Ernie Fritz. The film chronicles recording sessions that took place in 1995 when Springsteen and the E Street Band reunited in New York's Hit Factory for their first studio sessions in 11 years since their work together on 1984's *Born in the U.S.A.* Concessions will be available. This event includes evening access to *From Asbury Park to the Promised Land*.

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ADD FOUR/SPRINGSTEEN PROGRAMS

**Daily Offerings and Tours**

***From Asbury Park to the Promised Land: The Life and Music of Bruce Springsteen Gallery Talks***

**FREE with admission**

As visitors enter *From Asbury Park to the Promised Land: The Life and Music of Bruce Springsteen*, members of the Center's staff will pose thought-provoking questions about our First Amendment freedoms.

***Art and Protest in American History Tour***

**FREE with admission**

**Program times vary; check the visitor guide upon arrival for tour times**

This special tour within *From Asbury Park to the Promised Land: The Life and Music of Bruce Springsteen* highlights famous authors, poets, musicians, and artists throughout American history who have used their craft as a form of political protest.

***Decoding the Lyrics***

**FREE with admission**

This interactive program within *From Asbury Park to the Promised Land: The Life and Music of Bruce Springsteen* will give visitors the opportunity to delve further into the meaning behind some of Springsteen's famous songs. Using historical context clues from newspapers and videos, visitors will examine songs line by line in order to decipher the meaning of lyrics in hits such as "Born in the U.S.A.," "Streets of Philadelphia," and "The Rising."

***From Asbury Park to the Promised Land: The Life and Music of Bruce Springsteen Student Guide***

**FREE with admission**

With this special activity guide, students will closely examine Springsteen's use of music as a tool to express his First Amendment rights. They also will have the opportunity to experiment with songwriting by drawing inspiration from a personal story. In addition, the Center is partnering with the Bill of Rights Institute to develop pre- and post- visit lesson plans for educators.

***From Asbury Park to the Promised Land: The Life and Music of Bruce Springsteen Exhibition Tour for Groups***

**\$300 (maximum of 40 adults per group) plus general admission**

**Reservations required at 215.409.6800**

**Student tours available upon request**

During this 45-minute tour, groups will gain deeper insight into the *From Asbury Park to the Promised Land: The Life and Music of Bruce Springsteen* exhibition. The tour will highlight Bruce Springsteen's place in the tradition of American singers like Woody Guthrie, Pete Seeger, Joe Hill, Bob Dylan, Jimi Hendrix, and Steve Earle, who use music as a way to express their opinions. The tour also will examine how music is a powerful channel for expressing our First Amendment rights.

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## ADD FIVE/SPRINGSTEEN PROGRAMS

### ***Freedom of Expression Fridays on Constitution Daily*** **Fridays beginning February 17 – Friday, August 31, 2012**

Each Friday throughout the run of *From Asbury Park to the Promised Land: The Life and Music of Bruce Springsteen*, the National Constitution Center's blog, *Constitution Daily*, will publish dedicated content inspired by Bruce Springsteen and the First Amendment. Freedom of Expression Fridays will feature unique and original posts by musicians, writers, visual artists, and more, with a focus on issues such as protest, dissent, and the role of art in politics and political campaigns. Visit [blog.constitutioncenter.org](http://blog.constitutioncenter.org).

### ***Share Your Favorite Bruce Springsteen Memories*** **Online beginning Friday, February 17, 2012**

Bruce Springsteen fans are invited to share their favorite Springsteen memories and personal photos on the National Constitution Center's Facebook page, which will serve as a platform for fans to connect with other Springsteen enthusiasts, reminisce about their first Springsteen concert, and more! Visit [www.facebook.com/constitutioncenter](http://www.facebook.com/constitutioncenter) and 'Like' the Center's page for more information and to participate.

From February 17 through September 3, 2012, the National Constitution Center will host *From Asbury Park to the Promised Land: The Life and Music of Bruce Springsteen* – never before seen outside of the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum. This first major exhibition about the American songwriter takes a comprehensive look at Springsteen's career and catalog, from such early bands as Child, the Castiles and Steel Mill through his work with the E Street Band and as a solo artist. Visitors will have the rare opportunity to view more than 150 artifacts, including the Fender Esquire from the cover of *Born to Run*, the outfit Springsteen wore on the cover of *Born in the U.S.A.*, numerous handwritten lyric manuscripts, and Springsteen's 1960 Chevrolet Corvette.

Admission to *From Asbury Park to the Promised Land: The Life and Music of Bruce Springsteen* is \$24.50 for adults, \$23 for seniors and students and \$12 for children ages 4-12. Group rates also are available. Admission to the Center's main exhibition, *The Story of We the People*, including the award-winning theater production *Freedom Rising*, is included. For ticket information, call 215.409.6700 or visit [www.constitutioncenter.org](http://www.constitutioncenter.org).

CBS 3 and The CW Philly are the local media partners for the exhibition. CBS 3 (KYW-TV) and The CW Philly 57 (WPSG-TV) are part of CBS Television Stations, a division of CBS Corporation.

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## ADD SIX/SPRINGSTEEN PROGRAMS

The National Constitution Center is the first and only nonprofit, nonpartisan institution devoted to the most powerful vision of freedom ever expressed: the U.S. Constitution. Located on Independence Mall in Historic Philadelphia, the birthplace of American freedom, the Center illuminates constitutional ideals and inspires active citizenship through a state-of-the-art museum experience, including hundreds of interactive exhibits, films and rare artifacts; must-see feature exhibitions; the internationally acclaimed, 360-degree theatrical production *Freedom Rising*; and the iconic *Signers' Hall*, where visitors can sign the Constitution alongside 42 life-size, bronze statues of the Founding Fathers. As America's forum for constitutional dialogue, the Center engages diverse, distinguished leaders of government, public policy, journalism and scholarship in timely public discussions and debates. The Center also houses the Annenberg Center for Education and Outreach, the national hub for constitutional education, which offers cutting-edge civic learning resources both onsite and online. Freedom is calling. Rock it out at the National Constitution Center. For more information, call 215.409.6700 or visit [www.constitutioncenter.org](http://www.constitutioncenter.org).

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