

NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER

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LAST CHANCE TO SEE THE “HIT” EXHIBITION, *BASEBALL AS AMERICA*, AT THE NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER

Philadelphia, PA (April 28, 2008) – Now in its final weeks at the National Constitution Center, visitors won't want to miss *Baseball As America*. The Center will open early at 9:30 a.m. on the exhibit's final day – **Sunday, May 11, 2008** – in order to allow for more people to experience the exhibition before it leaves Philadelphia. During a special preview event, Hall of Fame third baseman Brooks Robinson said about the exhibit, “I see something new all the time...I think people who come through will get a good sense of baseball and the impact it's had on America.”

“The bottom of the ninth is one of the most exciting moments in a baseball game, and now it's that time for *Baseball As America*. I encourage everyone to come to the Center to catch the final inning,” said National Constitution Center President and CEO Joseph M. Torsella. “With baseball season in full swing, this is the perfect time to bring family and friends here to learn more about the connections between baseball and American culture.”

The 6,000-square-foot exhibition is organized by The National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum in Cooperstown, New York, and marks the first time the treasures of the Hall of Fame have left their legendary home to tour the country. *Baseball As America* includes over 500 of the Museum's most precious artifacts, dating from baseball's early roots in the 19th century to today, ranging from uniforms, balls, bats, and gloves, to books, recordings, artwork, films, to historic documents, advertising, ephemera and more.

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ADD ONE/BASEBALL LAST CHANCE

The exhibition also includes a special case dedicated to baseball history in Philadelphia, created by The National Baseball Hall of Fame and Museum. Artifacts from 19th century in Philadelphia, the Negro Leagues, the Philadelphia A's and the Philadelphia Phillies are featured.

Baseball As America is divided into seven sections each addressing a series of related ideas and issues that reveal the impact of baseball on American culture: Our National Spirit, Rooting for the Team, Sharing a Common Culture, Ideals and Injustices, Enterprise & Opportunity, Invention and Ingenuity, and Weaving Myths.

The national tour of *Baseball As America* is sponsored by Ernst & Young LLP. The exhibition is presented locally by Chevrolet. CBS 3 is the official media partner for the Center's showing of *Baseball As America* and the Philadelphia Phillies are a promotional partner for the exhibition.

Admission to *Baseball As America* is \$15 for adults, \$14 for seniors ages 65 and up, and \$9 for children ages 4-12. Active military personnel and children ages 3 and under are free. Group rates are also available. Admission to the Center's main exhibition, *The Story of We the People*, including the award-winning theater production "Freedom Rising", is included. iPod audio tours are also available and cost \$2 for members and \$3 for non-members. For ticket information, call 215.409.6700 or visit www.constitutioncenter.org.

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.