

NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PRESIDENTS, PATRIOTS, WITCHES, AND SPIES – OH MY!

HALLOWEEN FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY WITH *BILL OF FRIGHS* CELEBRATION AT THE NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER

Philadelphia, PA (October 13, 2008) –There is something for everyone this Halloween during the National Constitution Center's annual *Bill of Frighs* celebration. From ghost stories of the Signers, to tales of courageous spies, to presidential costumes and historic witch trials, visitors will experience a haunted history Halloween on Saturday, October 25 from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Visitors may find inspiration for unique Halloween costumes this year from the new book, *Patriots, Pirates, Heroes, & Spies: Stories from Historic Philadelphia*. Guests will have the opportunity to meet editor Sandra Mackenzie Lloyd at 1:00 p.m. during a special book signing at the Center. Comprised of twenty favorite stories from the renowned Once Upon A Nation storytelling benches, *Patriots, Pirates, Heroes, & Spies* provides a connection between the past and the present, and tells the amazing true stories of people who lived in or around Philadelphia from the 1600s through the present. Visitors will learn about people like Lydia Darragh, who risked her life to deliver important secrets to General Washington, and Peter Still, an enslaved man who bought his freedom and found his family. Tales of inventors, witches, and even a cow are also included. The book was created by Historic Philadelphia, Inc. and has a retail price of \$9.95. It can be purchased at the National Constitution Center, as well as at www.historicphiladelphia.org.

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ADD ONE/HALLOWEEN 2008

To learn even more about our city's past, visitors can join in a special walking tour, ***Be Prepared to Be Scared***, where haunting stories about death and burial rituals of the Signers will be revealed. The tour will take visitors of all ages past spooky locations throughout Historic Philadelphia, including places where ghostly sightings have been reported – the Betsy Ross House, City Tavern, Powel House, and Independence Hall – and ending with a haunting encounter with Ben Franklin. (Please note: The tour does not enter or include admission to these historic sites.) The *Be Prepared to Be Scared* tour lasts approximately one hour and takes place at 12:00 p.m., 2:00 p.m., and 4:00 p.m. Tickets cost \$5 for members and \$19 for non-members.

Visitors are also encouraged to come to the Center dressed as their favorite president, in honor of the new *Headed to the White House* exhibition. In addition, guests can stop by the jury box in the main exhibition, *The Story of We the People*, to watch a dramatic reading from *The Crucible* and join in a discussion about the Salem Witch Trials at 1:30 p.m. Throughout the day, visitors can go trick-or-treating in the Grand Hall Lobby, and they may even encounter the ghost of Benjamin Franklin while exploring *Signers' Hall!*

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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