

NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER LAUNCHES MODERN DAY WPA POSTER CONTEST

In conjunction with Posters for the People exhibition

Philadelphia, PA (November 5, 2009) – In conjunction with the National Constitution Center's newest exhibition, *Posters for the People*, artists of all ages are invited to contribute to the Center's **WPA Poster Contest**. As part of the New Deal, the government-sponsored Works Projects Administration (WPA) employed thousands of out-of-work citizens, including hundreds of artists. From 1935 to 1943, the WPA Poster Division was responsible for designing, printing, and distributing posters to raise awareness about public issues and civic life. Inspired by the work of the WPA, adults and children (grade levels K-12) are encouraged to create a poster depicting a current civic issue of his or her choosing. Possible subjects include environmental protection, healthcare, voting, and other prominent public concerns. All entries must be submitted by Tuesday, December 1, 2009 at 5:00 p.m.

The contest is divided into four participant categories: Elementary School (K-4), Middle School (5-8), High School (9-12), and Adult (18 and older). Participants may submit one entry only. Posters must be 20" x 30" and mounted on poster board, foam board, or heavy cardstock. Participants may use any type of media to create the poster.

Entrants must include their full name, school name (if applicable), grade (if applicable), age, mailing address, phone number, and e-mail address with their submission. Entries may be mailed to or dropped off at the National Constitution Center, Attn: Marketing, 525 Arch Street, Philadelphia, PA 19106, by Tuesday, December 1, 2009.

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ADD ONE/WPA POSTER CONTEST

The top three entries in each category, as judged by National Constitution Center staff, will be on display at the Center from Monday, December 7 through Monday, December 14, 2009. During this time, visitors can submit their votes for the best poster in each category. The winners will be announced and notified by the National Constitution Center on Friday, December 18, 2009. One winner will be selected per category. Winners of the Elementary, Middle, and High School categories will each receive a free class trip (up to 30 students and 3 chaperones) to the National Constitution Center. The winner of the Adult category will receive a year-long individual membership to the Center. The winning posters will be on display through Sunday, January 3, 2010.

From November 5, 2009 through January 3, 2010, the National Constitution Center is hosting *Posters for the People*, an exhibition exploring the social landscape of America during the New Deal through posters created by the Works Progress Administration (WPA). Featuring nearly 300 posters, including originals and reproductions, *Posters for the People* communicates the values, vision, and vitality of American democracy through art. The exhibition is presented in conjunction with Design for Social Impact. Admission to *Posters for the People* is FREE with regular museum admission.

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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