

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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THE CONSTITUTIONAL WALKING TOUR OFFERS A VARIETY OF EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES TO COMMEMORATE CONSTITUTION DAY ON SEPTEMBER 17 Teachers are Invited to Have Their Students Enter the 2nd Annual American Freedom Essay Contest to Win a Free Field Trip of Historic Philadelphia for Their Entire Class

Philadelphia, Pennsylvania – September 5, 2008 – The Constitutional Walking Tour of Philadelphia today announced its 2008 Constitution Day Resources to help celebrate Constitution Day. September 17th is designated as Constitution Day because on that date in 1787, the delegates of the Constitutional Convention in Philadelphia signed the United States Constitution at Independence Hall. The Constitutional Walking Tour is celebrating Constitution Day throughout the entire month of September, and teachers are encouraged to utilize The Constitutional's many free educational resources available at: www.TheConstitutional.com/1787.

2nd Annual American Freedom Essay Contest

In honor of Constitution Day, The Constitutional Walking Tour wants students to give their views about American freedom. The American Freedom Essay Contest challenges educators to have their students to write a 100-300 word essay on the importance of freedom in their lives. Entries will be judged in Elementary School, Middle School and High School categories with the winner in each category earning a free field trip of Historic Philadelphia with The Constitutional Walking Tour for his/her class.¹ The deadline for entries is October 15, 2008. For more details, educators are encouraged to visit www.TheConstitutional.com/schools.

¹ No purchase necessary. For complete contest rules, please see <u>www.TheConstitutional.com/essayrules</u>

Background on Constitution Day

In late 2004, Senator Robert Byrd, one of the United States Senate's leading Constitutional scholars, introduced legislation that President George W. Bush signed into law on December 8, 2004 requiring that all schools, colleges and Federal agencies receiving Federal funds offer annual educational programming involving the Constitution of the United States on or around Constitution Day, September 17th.

"Walking in the Founding Fathers' footsteps with The Constitutional Walking Tour of Philadelphia is a great way to commemorate Constitution Day. Along the tour, visitors see many important sites related to the U.S. Constitution including The First Bank of the United States which sparked the first great Constitutional debate between strict and loose constructionalists," stated Jonathan Bari, Chairman of The Constitutional Walking Tour. "Whether you want to visit Historic Philadelphia in person, or take a "virtual field trip," we can assist in integrating The Constitutional's educational programming into your Constitution Day curriculum."

Constitution Day Offerings, Plus Field Trips and Group Tours Year-Round

The Constitutional Walking Tour offers a variety of resources to help Educational Institutions and Federal Agencies fulfill the annual requirement for Constitution Day programming. Below is a detailed list of the resources for Educators, Students, Government and Military and Community Leaders.

The Constitutional Guided Walking Tour –The Constitutional Guided Walking Tour tells the dramatic story of the brave men and women who were responsible for creating America. Step back in time to see where The United States Constitution was created. See more than 20 of the most historic sites and attractions in 75 minutes on a 1.25-mile outdoor journey, including many sites and topics related to the U.S. Constitution such as Independence Hall and the National Constitution Center. Group tours and field trips are available year-round with advance reservations, and this Fall, special programming has been added to discuss the road to the White House with the Presidential election. Group rates and student discounts are available for groups of 25 or more. For more information, visit

<u>www.TheConstitutional.com/schools</u>, or call our group sales department at 215.525.1776.

 The <u>Constitutional Virtual Field Trip</u> — For those who cannot travel to Philadelphia this September, The Constitutional provides free "virtual field trips" through our interactive web site so that you can "walk" in the Founding Fathers' footsteps and learn about the birth of our Nation, including the creation of the U.S. Constitution, by taking The Constitutional's tour online. For more information, visit <u>www.TheConstitutional.com/1787</u>.

For details on all of The Constitutional's educational resources, please visit <u>www.TheConstitutional.com/1787</u>.

About The Constitutional Walking Tour of Philadelphia

The Constitutional Walking Tour of Philadelphia is one of the leading providers of sightseeing tours of America's Birthplace - "Where Every Day is Independence Day!"™ Located in Historic Philadelphia, The Constitutional visits more than 20 of the most historical sites on a 75 minute, 1.25 mile outdoor adventure in the Independence National Historical Park area, which is home to the Liberty Bell, Independence Hall and the National Constitution Center. The Constitutional guides visitors on a walk through history where The Declaration of Independence and the Constitution of the United States were created. Since 2004, The Constitutional has been consistently ranked as one of Philadelphia's "Top 25 Tourist Attractions" by the Philadelphia Business Journal. Come see why the Chicago Tribune stated, "No visit to Philadelphia is complete without taking a Constitutional Guided Walking Tour, a 75-minute, mile and a guarter stroll that puts 15 historic sites, from Independence Hall to the National Constitution Center, and Ben Franklin, in perspective." For more information on The Constitutional's various tours, please visit <u>www.TheConstitutional.com</u>. The Constitutional is also the producer of the Spirits of '76 Ghost Tour of Philadelphia which is "1 Part History, 2 Parts Haunt."™ The Spirits of '76 Ghost Tour features more than 20 of "Philly's Frights & Sights"™ on a 75 minute, 1.25 mile outdoor walking tour through Historic Philadelphia that features haunted facts and folklore. For more information, please see <u>www.Spiritsof76.com</u>.

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EDITOR'S NOTES - For Education media, please visit The Constitutional's various online resources:

 High-resolution Photographs of Historic Philadelphia are available for media usage at:

www.TheConstitutional.com/images .

- Story Ideas on The Constitutional Walking Tour, Historic Philadelphia and Heritage Tourism are available for media usage at: <u>www.TheConstitutional.com/StoryIdeas</u>.
- By the Numbers statistics on The Constitutional Walking Tour and Historic Philadelphia are available for media usage at: www.TheConstitutional.com/numbers .