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## LEE C. BOLLINGER TO ADDRESS FREEDOM OF THE PRESS AT THE NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER

Philadelphia, PA (March 31, 2010) – **Lee C. Bollinger**, President of Columbia University and one of the nation’s foremost experts on the First Amendment, will join the National Constitution Center on Wednesday, April 21, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss his new book, *Uninhibited, Robust, and Wide-Open: A Free Press for a New Century*. **Bill Marimow**, editor of *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, will moderate. (Originally scheduled for February 11, 2010, this program was postponed due to severe weather.) Admission is \$9 for members, \$15 for non-members, \$7 for teachers and students, and free for 1787 Society members. Reservations are required and can be made by calling 215.409.6700.

*Uninhibited, Robust, and Wide-Open* explores the troubled history of a free press in America and looks toward the challenges ahead. The First Amendment guarantees freedom of the press in seemingly clear terms. However, over the course of American history, Bollinger notes, the idea of freedom of the press has evolved, in response to social, political, technological, and legal changes. It was not until the twentieth century that freedom of the press came to be understood as guaranteeing an “uninhibited, robust, and wide-open” public discourse. But even during the twentieth century, the government has tried to erect barriers: the sedition laws of World War I, the use of libel law, the Pentagon Papers case, and efforts to limit press access to information. Bollinger sheds light on this history and explores the meaning of freedom of the press in our globalized, internet-dominated era.

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ADD ONE/LEE C. BOLLINGER

Lee C. Bollinger is a faculty member at the law school of Columbia University. He is also well-known for his leadership as president of the University of Michigan, where he successfully defended affirmative action and diversity in American higher education. His books include *The Tolerant Society*, *Images of a Free Press*, and *Eternally Vigilant: Free Speech in the Modern Era*.

Bill Marimow became editor of *The Philadelphia Inquirer* in November 2006. He had previously served as a reporter for *The Inquirer* from 1972 to 1987, and later served as New Jersey editor, city editor, and assistant to the publisher. Prior to rejoining *The Inquirer*, Marimow worked at National Public Radio, serving as managing editor, vice president for news, and ombudsman. He was editor of *The Baltimore Sun* for four years, beginning in 2000, and managing editor for six years prior to that. His work has received numerous awards, including the Pulitzer Prize for distinguished public service and for investigative reporting, as well as the Robert F. Kennedy award for radio reporting. A graduate of Trinity College, Marimow studied the First Amendment at Harvard Law School as a Nieman Fellow from 1982 to 1983.

A book sale and signing will follow the program, courtesy of Joseph Fox Bookshop.

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. For more information, call 215.409.6700 or visit [www.constitutioncenter.org](http://www.constitutioncenter.org).

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