

NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER

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SPECIAL EARTH DAY SCREENING AND DISCUSSION OF THE DOCUMENTARY, *A SEA CHANGE*, AT THE NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER

PHILADELPHIA, PA (March 31, 2009) – On the eve of Earth Day, the National Constitution Center will present *Red, White, Blue and Green: A Sea Change*, a film screening and discussion about climate change and the impact of carbon emissions on our oceans. Barbara Ettinger and Sven Huseby, producers of the documentary, *A Sea Change*, along with constitutional and environmental law expert James R. May, will examine the issue of ocean acidification and address the larger question of whether we have a constitutional right to a clean, healthy environment on Tuesday, April 21 at 6:30 p.m. Admission costs \$9 for members, \$15 for non-members, and \$7 for students and teachers. Reservations are required and can be made by calling 215.409.6700.

A Sea Change is the first documentary to explore the threat of ocean acidification, a little-known, but potentially devastating danger to ocean life. Told through the journey of Sven Huseby, a descendant of Norwegian fishmongers and a life-long environmentalist, the film shows how climate change is not simply manifesting itself in global warming; the chemistry of the ocean is being changed by excess carbon dioxide, creating a profound threat to the food chain from the bottom up. Traveling to fishing villages in Alaska, to conferences and laboratories, and to ancestral sites from the Copper River Delta to the barren glacial beaches of Svalbard, Norway, Huseby searched for information and answers on a quest to discover what environmental legacy his five-year-old grandson, Elias, will one day inherit.

Huseby will join his wife Barbara Ettinger, director and co-producer of *A Sea Change*, in a question and answer session immediately following the screening. Ettinger's first film,

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Martha and Ethel, screened at the Sundance Film Festival and was distributed theatrically by Sony Pictures Classics. *Two Square Miles*, also co-produced with her husband, aired nationally on PBS's Independent Lens in November 2006 and January 2007.

James R. May is a Professor of Law and Adjunct Professor of Graduate Engineering at Widener University. May directed the law school's Environmental and Natural Resources Law Clinic from 1992-2004, during which time the clinic successfully litigated more than 200 cases for 50 non-profit environmental groups in federal and state courts across the country. He is also the founder and co-director of the law school's Masters of Marine Policy program, a joint program with the University of Delaware.

The *Red, White, Blue and Green* program series at the National Constitution Center features conversations with nationally respected scholars, practitioners, advocates, executives, and government officials about unique constitutional issues pertaining to environmental policy and stewardship. From issues of economic and national security to questions of states' rights and federalism, this wide-ranging series generates balanced, thought-provoking exchange and sheds light on the relevancy of the environment and the Constitution in every day life.

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.