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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER PRESENTS
SPECIAL ELECTION EDUCATION MATERIALS**
In conjunction with *Headed to the White House* exhibit and
Election '08: The Power of We series

Philadelphia, PA – Presented in conjunction with the *Headed to the White House* exhibition and the year-long series, *Election '08: The Power of We*, the National Constitution Center's Annenberg Center for Education and Outreach is providing a variety of educational materials that are available from the Center's website at www.constitutioncenter.org.

Headed to the White House education materials include:

***Headed to the White House* Lesson Plan Collection**

Different aspects of the presidential election process, from registering to vote to the debate over the Electoral College, are presented in a collection of lesson plans developed by teachers during the Center's *Teaching the Presidential Election* National Teacher Institutes held during Summer 2008. The lesson plans are self-contained educational units for grades K-12, and can be downloaded at no charge from the Center's website at www.constitutioncenter.org.

***Headed to the White House* "Exhibit in a Virtual Box"**

Teachers can access materials created for the exhibit through the new "Exhibit in a Virtual Box," which includes four classroom posters, key multimedia elements from the exhibit experience, and classroom activities designed to engage students by creating a unique museum learning environment in the classroom. These materials are available at no cost through the Center's website at www.constitutioncenter.org.

***Teaching the Presidential Election* Online Professional Development Course**

This five-week graduate-level course for educators provides both content and academic theory on how to teach the 2008 presidential election to students from October 6 to November 9, 2008. The online course, which was created in partnership with *The New York Times* Knowledge Network and Arcadia University, provides a unique opportunity for educators from around the country to get together online to share ideas on how they are currently teaching the many elements of the presidential election.

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ADD ONE/EDUCATION

The Exchange: Creating a National Student Platform

As a follow up to the Spring 2008 edition of *The Exchange: Setting the Student Agenda*, this program, hosted by MTV News' SuChin Pak, will connect schools across the country via internet video conference to discuss the positions of the current presidential candidates and, ultimately, create policy recommendations for the newly-elected president on September 23, 2008. A five-lesson high school curriculum has been created in conjunction with this program and distributed to more than 2,000 schools across the country. It is also available for download on the Center's website. In addition, the Center and Scholastic Inc. have launched a new Facebook application, "Exchange This '08," which allows students between the ages of 13-18 to vote on what they believe are the most important issues in the current presidential election.

Pennsylvania Student Video Contest: Voting – The Power of Your Voice

PennCORD (Pennsylvania Coalition for Representative Democracy) is hosting a statewide video contest this fall for middle and high school students. Beginning September 1, 2008, participants will be able to submit a 30- to 60-second video based on the theme: *Voting – The Power of Your Voice*. Entries must be received by October 23, 2008. First place winners will receive a cash prize for their school and will spend the day in Harrisburg, PA with Governor Edward G. Rendell and his wife, the Honorable Marjorie Rendell. Second place winners will receive a trip to the National Constitution Center.

Newspapers in Education Election Supplement

The Center has developed a special classroom election supplement in conjunction with *The Philadelphia Inquirer* that is designed to provide teachers with the resources needed to engage students in the upcoming presidential election. The supplement includes information about debates, Election Night Bingo, and a Presidential Election Student Journal. Materials are available through classroom subscriptions to *The Philadelphia Inquirer* and through the Center's website.

From September 17, 2008 through December 14, 2008, the National Constitution Center will debut *Headed to the White House*. Developed by the Constitution Center, *Headed to the White House* is the only exhibition of its kind, uniquely created for students, teachers, and families during the height of the election season. The 3,000 square foot exhibition connects visitors with the excitement, pageantry, and importance of presidential elections through role-playing opportunities and interactive experiences.

Headed to the White House was made possible through the generous support of The Annenberg Foundation, The Pew Charitable Trusts, and The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation, and is sponsored locally by Pennoni Associates and Beneficial Bank.

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ADD TWO/EDUCATION

CBS 3 is the official media partner for the exhibition. CBS 3 (KYW-TV) and The CW Philly 57 (WPSG-TV) are part of CBS Television Stations, a division of CBS Corporation.

Admission to *Headed to the White House* is \$15 for adults, \$14 for seniors ages 65 and up, and \$9 for children ages 4-12. Active military personnel and children ages 3 and under are free. Group rates are also available. Admission to the Center's main exhibition, *The Story of We the People*, including the award-winning theater production "Freedom Rising", is included. For ticket information, call 215.409.6700 or visit www.constitutioncenter.org.

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.

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