

# NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER

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## **ACCLAIMED HISTORIAN DORIS KEARNS GOODWIN TO MAKE EXCLUSIVE APPEARANCE AT THE NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER**

***With excerpts from Margaret Garner  
sung by Tracie Luck of the Opera Company of Philadelphia***

Philadelphia, PA (October 18, 2005) – On Wednesday, November 2, acclaimed historian Doris Kearns Goodwin will make an exclusive Philadelphia appearance at the National Constitution Center to discuss her new book, *Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln*, as the Center prepares to close the doors to its first changing exhibit, *Lincoln: The Constitution and the Civil War*. The program will begin at 6:30 p.m. on the Grand Hall Overlook.

Tickets cost \$10 for members, \$15 for non-members, and \$6 for students. The National Constitution Center is also offering a special package for \$75 that includes an exclusive cocktail reception with the author at 5:30 p.m., a signed copy of the book, and admittance to the program. Reservations are required and can be made at 215-409-6700. This event is co-sponsored, in part, by AT&T.

In *Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln*, Goodwin illuminates Lincoln's political genius as the one-term congressman/prairie lawyer who rises from obscurity to prevail over three gifted rivals of national reputation to become President. She shows the long, horrifying Civil War struggle from the vantage point of the White House as Lincoln copes with incompetent generals, hostile congressmen, and his raucous cabinet. He overcomes these obstacles by winning the respect of his former competitors. Goodwin centers her narrative on Lincoln's mastery of men and how it shaped the most significant presidency in the nation's history.

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## ADD ONE/GOODWIN PROGRAM

Doris Kearns Goodwin won the Pulitzer Prize in history for *No Ordinary Time: Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt*, which was a bestseller in hardcover and trade paper. She is also the author of *Wait Till Next Year: A Memoir*, *The Fitzgeralds and the Kennedys: An American Saga*, and *Lyndon Johnson and the American Dream*. The film rights to *Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln* have been bought by Steven Spielberg's company, DreamWorks.

Introducing the Goodwin program will be mezzo-soprano, Tracie Luck, of the Opera Company of Philadelphia. Luck, who has performed *La Traviata*, *La Perichole* and *Porgy and Bess*, will sing two excerpts from *Margaret Garner*, the new opera by Grammy award-winning composer Richard Danielpour with words by Nobel laureate Toni Morrison. *Margaret Garner* is the story of a runaway slave who kills her daughter rather than return her to slavery. The Opera Company of Philadelphia is presenting the East Coast premiere of *Margaret Garner* in February 2006.

Located at 525 Arch Street on Philadelphia's historic Independence Mall, the National Constitution Center is an independent, nonpartisan, nonprofit organization dedicated to increasing public understanding of the U.S. Constitution and its relevance to Americans' daily lives. Opened on July 4, 2003, 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". From June 10 through November 4, the museum is also featuring its first new traveling exhibition, *Lincoln: The Constitution and the Civil War*. The Center is open seven days a week, and admission is \$9 for adults and \$7 for seniors ages 62 and up, children ages 4-12, and active military personnel. Children ages 3 and under are free. Group rates are also available.

The National Constitution Center also houses the Annenberg Center for Education and Outreach, which serves as the hub for national constitutional education and debates, and as a home for visiting scholars. Also, serving as a nonpartisan forum for constitutional debate, the Center presents – without endorsement – programs that contain diverse viewpoints on a broad range of issues. For more information, call 215.409.6600 or visit [www.constitutioncenter.org](http://www.constitutioncenter.org).

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