

NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER

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THE NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER WELCOMES JAMES WILLIAM IJAMES AS A NEW “FREEDOM RISING” ACTOR

Philadelphia, PA (July 25, 2007) – The National Constitution Center announces the addition of **James William Ijames** to its cast of actors who perform in the Center’s signature “Freedom Rising” theater show.

Ijames is a native of Bessemer City, North Carolina. He attended Morehouse College in Atlanta, Georgia, where he received a BA in Drama. He then attended the MFA Acting Training program at Temple University. While at Temple, Ijames appeared in *The Seagull*, *Jitney*, and *A Lesson Before Dying*. His professional credits include *Voices Underwater* with Gas & Electric Arts and *Ponies* with Israel Horowitz’s Gloucester Stage Company in Gloucester, Massachusetts. Ijames has worked in the greater Philadelphia area as a teacher, actor, and director. Most recently, he directed a production of *Seven Guitars* at Rowan University. He was also a featured actor in the Center’s *Living News* production, which debuted in March 2007.

“Freedom Rising” is an award-winning, state-of-the-art multi-media theater experience dedicated to connecting visitors—in a direct, engaging, and unforgettable way—with the story of the U.S. Constitution. This 345-seat theater-in-the-round production incorporates one actor, 360° projection, surprise scenic elements, theatrical-lighting, and

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ADD ONE/ JAMES WILLIAM IJAMES

a dynamic surround soundtrack. The production creates a magical environment in which visitors come to see themselves as a force in the life of the Constitution and the Constitution as an on-going force in all our lives in this country. "Freedom Rising" is performed every 30 minutes during museum hours, and is free with regular museum admission of \$12 for adults, \$11 for seniors ages 65 and up, and \$8 for children ages 4-12. Active military personnel and children ages 3 and under are free.

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. Opened on July 4, 2003, the Constitution Center is 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. For more information, call 215.409.6700 or visit www.constitutioncenter.org.

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