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## **TINA BROWN TO DISCUSS PRINCESS DIANA AND THE ARISTOCRACY OF CELEBRITY AT THE NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER**

### ***In conjunction with the Diana: A Celebration Exhibition***

Philadelphia, PA (September 22, 2009) – On Tuesday, October 13, 2009 at 6:30 p.m., Daily Beast founder and editor **Tina Brown** will join the National Constitution Center to discuss Princess Diana and her dramatic impact on the rise of celebrity culture. *Vanity Fair* editor **Todd S. Purdum** will moderate. Admission is \$9 for members, \$15 for non-members, and \$7 for teachers and students. Reservations are required and can be made by calling 215.409.6700. This program is part of a series on the nature of aristocracy and America's fascination with royalty, held in conjunction with the *Diana: A Celebration* exhibition.

In her bestselling book, *The Diana Chronicles*, Brown explains that Lady Diana Spencer stepped onto the public stage at a moment when British tabloids were growing bolder to satisfy the public's increasing fascination with celebrity culture. The paparazzi found a willing subject in the young aristocrat, who proved to be gifted at manipulating the media and gaining power from publicity.

Tina Brown is the founder and editor-in-chief of The Daily Beast. She is the author of the 2007 *New York Times* bestseller, *The Diana Chronicles*. She previously served as editor of *Tatler*, *Vanity Fair*, *Talk* magazine, and *The New Yorker*, where she served as the first female editor in the magazine's 73 year history, as well as host of CNBC's Topic A with Tina Brown. In November 2000, Brown was awarded the C.B.E. (Commander of the British Empire) by Queen Elizabeth, for her services to overseas journalism.

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Award winning journalist Todd S. Purdum joined *Vanity Fair* as national editor in 2006. Purdum had spent the last 23 years at the *New York Times*, where he started as a copyboy in 1982. He most recently served as a correspondent in the Washington bureau, where he also served as a diplomatic and White House correspondent.

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

This program is part of the John S. and James L. Knight Foundation *Constitutional Conversation Series*.

The John S. and James L. Knight Foundation promotes excellence in journalism worldwide and invests in the vitality of the U.S. communities where the Knight brothers owned newspapers. Knight Foundation focuses on projects with the potential to create transformational change. For more, visit [www.knightfoundation.org](http://www.knightfoundation.org).

From October 2 through December 31, 2009, the National Constitution Center will host the international traveling exhibition, *Diana: A Celebration*, providing an opportunity for visitors to learn more about the life and work of the Princess of Wales. The exhibition is on loan from the Althorp Estate, the Spencer Family's 500-year-old ancestral home in England.

Admission to *Diana: A Celebration* is \$23 for adults, \$21 for seniors ages 65 and up, and \$15 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. iPod audio tours cost an additional \$5. For ticket information, call 215.409.6700 or visit [www.constitutioncenter.org](http://www.constitutioncenter.org).

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*Diana: A Celebration* is produced by Arts and Exhibitions International, in association with the Althorp Estate, Cultural Networks International Inc. The exhibition is presented locally by Macy's, and CBS 3 and The CW Philly are the official media partners. CBS 3 (KYW-TV) and The CW Philly 57 (WPSG-TV) are part of CBS Television Stations, a division of CBS Corporation.

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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