

# NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER

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## SENATOR GEORGE MCGOVERN TO DISCUSS ABRAHAM LINCOLN'S PRESIDENCY AT THE NATIONAL CONSTITUTION CENTER

Philadelphia, PA (December 22, 2008) – As part of the National Constitution Center's celebration of the bicentennial of Lincoln's birth, former U.S. **Senator George McGovern** will participate in a conversation about Lincoln's presidency and his lasting legacy. This program will take place on Tuesday, January 13, 2009 at 6:30 p.m. Tickets cost \$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.

In his new book on the sixteenth president, Senator McGovern writes that Lincoln's presidency is the hinge on which American history pivots, the time when the young republic collapsed of its own contradictions and a new birth of freedom, sanctified by blood, created the United States we know today. Lincoln's story has been told many times, but never by a man who himself sought the office of president and contemplated the responsibilities that come with it.

George S. McGovern represented South Dakota in the United States Senate from 1963 to 1981 and was the Democratic nominee for president in 1972. He was a decorated bomber pilot in World War II, after which he earned his Ph.D. in American history and government at Northwestern University. He is a recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

**Sean Wilentz**, author and professor of history at Princeton University, will moderate. Wilentz is the author or editor of eight previous books, including *Chants Democratic* and *The Rise of*

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ADD ONE/SENATOR GEORGE MCGOVERN

*American Democracy*. He has also written on contemporary politics and history for *The New York Times*, the *Los Angeles Times*, *The New Republic*, and other publications.

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

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. For more information, call 215.409.6700 or visit [www.constitutioncenter.org](http://www.constitutioncenter.org).

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