



SANDRA DAY O'CONNOR INSTITUTE CONSTITUTION SERIES PRESENTS HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

Free Online Forum Presents Dr. Spencer Crew of the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History & Culture

July 9, 2020 (Phoenix, AZ) – The Sandra Day O'Connor Institute will present its free online public forum, the *Constitution Series: Equality and Justice For All* featuring Dr. Spencer Crew, Acting Director of the National Museum of African American History and Culture at The Smithsonian Institution and a veteran of public history institutions for more than thirty years. The complimentary forum will take place on Wednesday, July 29 at 1 pm PDT and 4 pm EDT.

Justice Sandra Day O'Connor served on the National Board of the Smithsonian for many years. Following Justice O'Connor's retirement from the Court, she founded the nonprofit and nonpartisan Sandra Day O'Connor Institute in 2009. The Institute has long served as a convener of civil dialogue that has sought to foster solutions rather than stand on the sidelines with good intentions. With core values of inclusivity, civility and collaboration, the organization believes that the expressed ideals of this great nation require exploring issues of injustice. The Constitution Series hopes to broaden perspectives and increase understanding through thoughtful listening, mutual respect and shared purpose.

In his distinguished career, Dr. Crew has also served as director of the National Museum of American History at the Smithsonian Institution and as president of the National Underground Railroad Freedom Center. At each of those institutions, he sought to make history accessible to the public through innovative and inclusive exhibitions and public programs. Dr. Crew has curated numerous exhibitions and published extensively in the areas of African American and Public History. His latest book is *Thurgood Marshall: A Life in American History*. He is a graduate of Brown University and holds a master's degree and a doctorate from Rutgers University.

On the contemporary relevance of the Constitution, Justice O'Connor stated, "It's survived very well, I think. ... To have a good government and maintain a good government, every generation has to learn about the Constitution and the laws. That way, every generation can provide good citizens who will understand our form of government and participate by voting and other ways. It's critically important that we learn about it, and you don't inherit that knowledge, you have to learn it."

To register for the free, online public forum or for more information, visit www.OConnorInstitute.org.

About The Sandra Day O'Connor Institute *Founded in 2009 by retired Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, the O'Connor Institute, a nonprofit, nonpartisan 501(c)(3), continues her distinguished legacy and lifetime work to advance civil discourse, civic engagement and civics education.*

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