

## THE RICHARD STOCKTON COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY

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Office of Public Relations  
Pomona, NJ 08240

# The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey to Commemorate the Constitution

*Events Run from Wednesday, September 17, 2008 through Tuesday, November 4, 2008 on the Galloway Twp. Campus*

### ***For Immediate Release***

Wednesday, September 10, 2008

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**GALLOWAY TWP., NJ** – The Richard Stockton College of New Jersey will celebrate Constitution Day on September 17, 2008.

The United States Constitution was completed and signed by the Philadelphia Convention on September 17, 1787. Although the Constitution was signed more than 200 years ago, Constitution Day officially began in 1997 with the simultaneous recitation of the Preamble Across America. Four years ago, on December 8, 2004 President George W. Bush officially established September 17<sup>th</sup> as “United States Constitution Day” when he signed House Resolution 1848.

The events centered around Constitution Day are as follows:

**Monday, September 17, 4:00pm – 5:00pm, Performing Arts Center, Constitution Day Keynote Address, Governor James J. Florio.** Former NJ Governor James J. Florio will speak on voter access and campaign finance reform. He will also comment on the impact of the presidential election’s outcome on the composition of the Supreme Court and on public policy issues.

**Thursday, September 18, 4:30pm-6:00pm, Performing Arts Center, Freshman Convocation: Presidential Power and the Rule of Law with Charlie Savage.** Pulitzer-prize winning journalist and author of *Takeover: The Return of the Imperial Presidency and the Subversion of American Democracy*, Charlie Savage will address executive power and the presidency of George W. Bush. His talk will be followed by a book-signing. Call the Box Office at (609) 652- 9000 for overflow seating in nearby classrooms that will carry the broadcast live.

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**Thursday, October 2, 2:30pm – 4:30pm, Performing Arts Center, Annual Fannie Lou Hamer Civil Rights Symposium, No Justice, No Peace: Radical Voices From the Civil Rights Movement.** This annual event commemorates the legacy of Fannie Lou Hamer, a civil rights activist who advocated for voting rights at the 1964 Democratic National Convention in Atlantic City. Dr. Barbara Ransby, Associate Professor of History and Africana Studies at the University of Illinois - Chicago and author of *Ella Baker and the Black Freedom Movement: A Radical Democratic Vision*, will discuss this work and she and civil rights activists John Churchville and Irene Hill will serve as discussion panelists.

**Thursday, October 9, 8:00 pm--10:00 pm, N-Wing Cafeteria, Film Screening of *Freeheld: The Laurel Hester Story* - and Introduction by Kevin Cathcart, Lambda Legal.** Kevin Cathcart, Executive Director of Lambda Legal will introduce *Freeheld: The Laurel Hester Story*, a documentary that chronicles the challenges faced by Stockton alumna, Detective Lieutenant Laurel Hester in leaving her pension to her domestic partner, Stacie Andree.

**Saturday, November 1, 9:00 am–2:00 pm, Trip to National Constitution Center –** The National Constitution Center in Historic Philadelphia is the United States' most interactive history museum. To participate in the bus trip, e-mail: [Linda.Wharton@stockton.edu](mailto:Linda.Wharton@stockton.edu).

**Tuesday, November 4, Election Day.** Be sure to cast your vote in this important election. Stockton students will work to get out the vote at Stockton. Students will help with voter registration prior to the election. Exercise your right to vote.

Constitution Day events are sponsored by the Office of the Provost and the Division of Student Affairs. All of these events are free and open to the public.

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