



honoring the PRINCIPLES

We the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this . . .

Quick! From what important document does this excerpt come from?

- a) the Pledge of Allegiance?
- b) the Bill of Rights?
- c) the Preamble of the U.S. Constitution?
- d) a marriage vow?

If you guessed c, congratulations! If you didn't, perhaps September 17 will help.

That's the day that people across America will recite the words of the Preamble — in unison — to remember the principles that the United States is founded on.



It's Constitution Day!

Cantigny will celebrate Constitution Day with a Naturalization Ceremony on September 17, 11 am. On this day, in which the principles of freedom are celebrated, hundreds of Chicagoans will take the Oath of Allegiance and become America's newest citizens. The celebration will be held on the Parade Field in front of the Visitors Center. Free parking.

Facts about Our U.S. Constitution

- Of all the constitutions in the world, the U.S. Constitution is the oldest and shortest.
- The quest for individual freedom motivated the Founding Fathers to write the Constitution.
- There are 4,440 words in the Constitution (plus 27 Amendments).
- The Constitution doesn't tell us what to do, Americans tell the government what to do in the form of amendments.
- The original Constitution is on display at the National Archives in Washington, D.C.