

ARENA STAGE MEDIA RELEASE

Molly Smith Artistic Director Edgar Dobie Executive Director Zelda Fichandler Founding Director

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ARENA STAGE ANNOUNCES DIALOGUE STARTERS FOR JANUARY 27 ARENA CIVIL DIALOGUES

*** Topic will explore the proper role of government in our economic and social lives ***

(Washington, D.C.) Arena Stage at the Mead Center for American Theater will host its latest **Arena Civil Dialogue**, sponsored by Exelon, to engage the D.C.-area community. Scholar, professor and public intellectual **Amitai Etzioni** has curated and will moderate an expert-led panel on what the proper role of government in our economic and social life is. The dialogue will be held in the **Molly Smith Study at Arena Stage at the Mead Center for American Theater on January 27 from 5:30-7 p.m.**

Arena Civil Dialogues bring together Dialogue Starters with expertise on the evening's topic. The Dialogue Starters for January 27 will include: **Henry Aaron**, the Bruce and Virginia MacLaury senior fellow in the economic studies program at the Brookings Institution; **David Azerrad**, assistant professor and research fellow at Hillsdale College's Kirby Center in Washington, D.C.; and **Roger Pilon**, former vice president for the Cato Institute.

There will be a reception before the event, starting at 5 p.m. in the Molly Smith Study. This event is free and open to the public; reservations are required.

For more information and to register for future Arena Civil Dialogues, visit: arenastage.org/civildialogues

Be on the lookout for the Civil Dialogue's spring schedule this January.

January 27 Dialogue Starter Biographies

Amitai Etzioni (*Curator and Moderator*) is a university professor and professor of International relations at The George Washington University. He served as a senior advisor at the Carter White House; taught at Columbia University, Harvard University and University of California at Berkeley; and served as president of the American Sociological Association (ASA). A study by Richard Posner ranked him among the top 100 American intellectuals. Etzioni is the author of many books, including *The Limits of Privacy* (1999) and *Privacy in a Cyber Age* (2015). His most recent book, *Happiness is the Wrong Metric: A Liberal Communitarian Response to Populism*, was published by Springer in January 2018.

Henry Aaron (*Panelist*) is currently the Bruce and Virginia MacLaury senior fellow in the economic studies program at the Brookings Institution. From 1990 through 1996 he was the director of the economic studies program. He is a member and vice-chair of the District of Columbia Health Benefits Exchange and is a member and former chair of the social security advisory board.

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David Azerrad (*Panelist*) is an assistant professor and research fellow at Hillsdale College's Kirby Center in Washington, D.C. His research and writing focus on classical liberalism, conservative political thought and identity politics. Prior to joining Hillsdale, Azerrad was the director of the B. Kenneth Simon Center for Principles and Politics at The Heritage Foundation. He has taught previously at American University and the University of Dallas. His writings have appeared in various publications, including *The Claremont Review of Books*, *The Weekly Standard*, *National Affairs*, *First Things*, *The Times* (of London), *Real Clear Politics*, *The Federalist*, *Public Discourse*, *The National Interest* and *Interpretation: A Journal of Political Philosophy*. He has also appeared on national television in the U.S., Canada and the U.K. A native of Montreal, Azerrad received his B.A. from Concordia University, his M.A. from Carleton University and his Ph.D. in politics from the University of Dallas.

Roger Pilon (*Panelist*) joined the Cato Institute in October 1988, serving as vice president for legal affairs until January 2019. Currently, he holds Cato's B. Kenneth Simon Chair in Constitutional Studies. He is the founding director emeritus of Cato's Center for Constitutional Studies and the founding publisher emeritus of the *Cato Supreme Court Review*. Prior to joining Cato, Pilon held five senior posts in the Reagan administration, at OPM, State and Justice, and was a national fellow at Stanford's Hoover Institution. In 1989 the Bicentennial Commission presented him with its Benjamin Franklin Award for excellence in writing on the U.S. Constitution. In 2001 Columbia University's School of General Studies awarded him its Alumni Medal of Distinction. Pilon lectures at law schools across the country and abroad and testifies often before Congress. His writings have appeared in the *Wall Street Journal* and elsewhere. He is a frequent guest on radio and TV.

Arena Stage at the Mead Center for American Theater, under the leadership of Artistic Director Molly Smith and Executive Producer Edgar Dobie, is a national center dedicated to American voices and artists. Arena Stage produces plays of all that is passionate, profound, deep and dangerous in the American spirit, and presents diverse and groundbreaking work from some of the best artists around the country. Arena Stage is committed to commissioning and developing new plays and impacts the lives of over 10,000 students annually through its work in community engagement. Now in its seventh decade, Arena Stage serves a diverse annual audience of more than 300,000. arenastage.org

Exelon Corporation (NYSE: EXC) is a Fortune 100 energy company with the largest number of electricity and natural gas customers in the U.S. Exelon does business in 48 states, the District of Columbia and Canada and had 2017 revenue of \$33.5 billion. Exelon serves approximately 10 million customers in Delaware, the District of Columbia, Illinois, Maryland, New Jersey and Pennsylvania through its Atlantic City Electric, BGE, ComEd, Delmarva Power, PECO and Pepco subsidiaries. Exelon is one of the largest competitive U.S. power generators, with more than 32,000 megawatts of nuclear, gas, wind, solar and hydroelectric generating capacity comprising one of the nation's cleanest and lowest-cost power generation fleets. The company's Constellation business unit provides energy products and services to approximately 2 million residential, public sector and business customers, including more than two-thirds of the Fortune 100. Follow Exelon on Twitter @Exelon.

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