



For Immediate Release

**SIXTH FLOOR MUSEUM HONORS JFK CENTENNIAL WITH SPECIAL CONVERSATION  
FEATURING STEPHEN KENNEDY SMITH AND DOUGLAS BRINKLEY**

**DALLAS, TX – April 19, 2017:** In honor of the centennial of the birth of President John F. Kennedy, The Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza is pleased to present an exceptional public program on Tuesday, May 16, 2017. This unique event will feature President Kennedy's nephew Stephen Kennedy Smith, noted historian Douglas Brinkley, and journalist/author Rena Pederson as moderator.

Kennedy Smith, the eldest son of President Kennedy's only surviving sibling Jean Kennedy Smith, and Brinkley are making a special trip to Dallas to discuss *JFK: A Vision For America*, their compilation of John F. Kennedy's greatest speeches. This comprehensive reflection on President Kennedy's life and legacy includes the president's hand-written notes, hundreds of rarely seen photos and commentary by America's top historians, leading political thinkers and preeminent writers and artists, including the Dalai Lama, Robert Dallek, David McCullough, Senator Jon McCain, Senator Elizabeth Warren and many others.

Hosted on the Museum's seventh floor, the two-tiered event begins at 6 p.m. Tuesday, May 16, 2017 with a mix-and-mingle reception with Kennedy Smith, Brinkley and Pederson. The program will start at 7 p.m., followed by an 8 p.m. book signing. Tickets are \$125 for the reception, program and book signing and include a copy of *JFK: A Vision For America*. Program-only tickets are \$40. Tickets are available in advance at [jfk.org](http://jfk.org) and at the Museum.

"As the youngest elected president in US history, President Kennedy embodied the qualities of both vigor and vision, and the causes he championed are just as relevant today as in the 1960s," said Nicola Longford, executive director of The Sixth Floor Museum. "His thoughts and initiatives on civil rights, space exploration, the environment, immigration and relations with Cuba demonstrate his lasting influence as an outstanding American leader and orator, and we're honored to have Stephen Kennedy Smith and Douglas Brinkley here in Dallas to discuss President Kennedy's impact on both our nation and the world."

**About Stephen Kennedy Smith**

Stephen Kennedy Smith is a lecturer at the Sloan School of Management as well as a fellow at the Connection Science Group at MIT. He received his BA from Harvard University, JD from Columbia University and EdM from the Harvard Graduate School of Education. He has served on the staff of the Senate Judiciary and Foreign Relations committees and is a three-time recipient of the Danforth Award for Excellence in Teaching at Harvard University, where he taught at Harvard Law School. He continues to be active in Democratic politics and lives in New York City.

### **About Douglas Brinkley**

Douglas Brinkley is a professor of history at Rice University, the CNN Presidential Historian, and a contributing editor at *Vanity Fair* and *Audubon*. He is the author of a number of bestselling books, including *Cronkite*, which won the Sperber Prize for best book in journalism, and *The Great Deluge*, which won the Robert F. Kennedy Book Award. He is a member of the Society of American Historians and the Council on Foreign Relations. He lives in Austin, Texas.

### **About Rena Pederson**

Moderator Rena Pederson is a nationally recognized journalist and author who has interviewed Fidel Castro, Margaret Thatcher, Julia Child, Jane Goodall and U.S. presidents from Carter to Clinton to Bush. *Texas Monthly* once called her “one of the most powerful women in Texas.” She was a member of the prestigious Pulitzer Prize board for nine years and a former speechwriter. She is currently a contributor to *The Huffington Post* and public radio and lives in Dallas.

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### **About the Museum**

The Sixth Floor Museum at Dealey Plaza chronicles the assassination and legacy of President John F. Kennedy; interprets the Dealey Plaza National Historic Landmark District and the John F. Kennedy Memorial Plaza; and presents contemporary culture within the context of presidential history.

Located at 411 Elm Street in downtown Dallas, the Museum is open Monday 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. and Tuesday – Sunday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Audio guides for the permanent exhibit are included with admission and available in six languages, including ASL. For more information, visit [jfk.org](http://jfk.org) or call 214.747.6660.