



Office of the District Executive

Eugene J. Corcoran
District Court Executive

Dora L. Irizarry
Chief Judge

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 24, 2018

CONTACT

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Brooklyn, New York -- Chief Judge Dora L. Irizarry is pleased to announce that a special naturalization ceremony will be held at the United States District Court for the Eastern District of New York to celebrate Constitution and Citizenship Day on September 17, 2018.

United States district courthouses throughout the nation will be celebrating Constitution and Citizenship Day with special naturalization ceremonies to commemorate the formation and signing of the United States Constitution and to recognize those who have become U.S. citizens. Fifty candidates for citizenship and their guests will attend. The event is part of the Circuit-wide initiative entitled "Justice for All: Courts and the Community," which was launched in 2014 by Second Circuit Court of Appeals Chief Judge Robert A. Katzmann to encourage civic education and engagement.

Our keynote speaker will be William Lohier, a Stuyvesant High School senior, poet, and activist. As the 2018 New York City Youth Poet Laureate, he has worked alongside Urban Word NYC and NYC Votes to promote civic engagement and artistic excellence with youth across New York City. He has performed at venues such as the Schomburg Center, the Apollo Theater, and the Library of Congress. He is captain of his school's speech team, president of the Stuyvesant Black Students League, and a member of his school's newspaper and Big Sib program. William also is an editor of *Kidspirit*, an international youth magazine, a co-founder of *& Magazine*, and soon will be a published poet, with his first poetry collection due out in November.

Renowned opera singer and attorney Savannah Stevenson will sing the National Anthem. She received her B.F.A. in classical voice performance from The School of Music at Carnegie Mellon University. She has performed nationally and internationally with symphony orchestras as well as opera and musical theater companies. Savannah is Of Counsel to the firm Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP and volunteers with community mediation centers in New York.

The Constitution and Citizenship Day Special Naturalization Ceremony will take place on September 17, 2018 at 11:00 am in the Hon. Jack B. Weinstein Ceremonial Courtroom at the United States Courthouse in Brooklyn, New York.

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