

""Twitter handle (and profile name): fulcrum\_us (The Fulcrum)

**Twitter description:** A nonprofit, nonpartisan news org covering efforts to fix the U.S. political system. Simply put: News. Debate. Community. Levers for better democracy.

**Description of the organization from a third party source:** "The Fulcrum is a digital news organization focused exclusively on efforts to reverse the dysfunctions plaguing American democracy. We are nonprofit and nonpartisan. Our original stories, the news we gather from across the country and our opinion forum are all tightly focused on money in politics, redistricting, voting rights, election access, government ethics, civic engagement and the imbalance of powers."

**Scraped text from their home page of their website:** Titles: The Fulcrum

**Headings:** Leveraging Our Differences; A Republic, if we can keep it; ; Join an Upcoming Event; This elections season, let's not repeat the same news literacy mistakes; Support Democracy Journalism; Join The Fulcrum; We need to address the 'pacing problem' before AI gets out of control; From local journalism to civic media: A conversation with Darryl Holliday; The right to privacy in the wake of Dobbs; We need a TikTok president; America's political orphans have options in the presidential election; John Adams and the birth of centrism; Here's to life: Remembering Bruce Bond; Election defenders' top 2024 worry: Online rumors, deceptions, lies swaying the masses; New school for conservative thought to launch amid changing Republican Party dynamics; How the push for stronger ethics rules in Congress is routinely derailed; Former members of Congress say threats of violence are on the rise; For-profit colleges caught in regulatory tug of war; Who is the new House Speaker Rep. Mike Johnson?; Video: Jordan bully tactics backfire, provoke threats and harassment of fellow Republicans; Video Rewind: Reflection on Indigenous Peoples' Day with Rev. F. Willis Johnson; Video: The power of young voices; Video: Expert baffled by Trump contradicting legal team; Video: Do white leaders hinder black aspirations?; Podcast: Dr. F Willis Johnson in rich conversation with Steve Lawler; Podcast: Dr. F. Willis Johnson in a rich conversation with Patrick McNeal; Podcast: Better choices, better elections; Podcast: Are state legislators really accountable to their voters?; A Republic, if we can keep it; This elections season, let's not repeat the same news literacy mistakes; We need to address the 'pacing problem' before AI gets out of control; From local journalism to civic media: A conversation with Darryl Holliday; The right to privacy in the wake of Dobbs; We need a TikTok president

**Paragraphs:** Part IV: The Preamble; The revolutionary transfer of political power from the states under the Articles of Confederation to the national government under the Constitution was denoted by in the Preamble to the Constitution, writes Breslin.; Breslin is the Joseph C. Palamountain Jr. Chair of Political Science at Skidmore College and author of "A Constitution for the Living: Imagining How Five Generations of Americans Would

Rewrite the Nation's Fundamental Law." This is the latest in a series to assist American citizens on the bumpy road ahead this election year. By highlighting components, principles and stories of the Constitution, Breslin hopes to remind us that the American political experiment remains, in the words of Alexander Hamilton, the "most interesting in the world." In these challenging political times, I find it helps if we look for inspiration to the sacred texts of our secular civic religion. Look no further than the Constitution's Preamble - 52 words that have stirred generations past and present. Those famous aspirations - promises, really - are the country's calling. 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" are America's objectives, its aims, its ambitions. In short, they are the nation's collective mission. They didn't start off that way. If James Madison was the brains behind the U.S. Constitution, Gouverneur Morris was the conclave's poet. Dubbed the "penman of the Constitution," Morris's style and prose proved invaluable in a nascent country trying to find its footing. Fresh off a bloody revolution and the failure of the Articles of Confederation, the stakes for delegates at the 1787 Constitutional Convention were high. Word choice for the unratified constitutional text would matter. Nobody understood that better than the delegate from Pennsylvania with the wooden leg and the acerbic wit. Sign up for The Fulcrum newsletter; Nowhere is Morris' eloquence more powerfully displayed than in the soaring verses of the Constitution's famous Preamble. Things didn't start off that movingly, however. The first draft of the Preamble was disappointingly mundane. In many respects an afterthought, it was seen by some in Philadelphia as irrelevant and unnecessary. There was no discussion of any prefatory statement at all during the convention's deliberations. It was the Committee of Detail, the group responsible for taking the resolutions agreed upon and producing an initial draft of the Constitution, that first added a preamble. The words were uninspiring. It read, "We the People of the States of New-Hampshire, Massachusetts, Rhode-Island and Providence Plantations, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North-Carolina, South-Carolina, and Georgia, do ordain, declare and establish the following Constitution for the Government of Ourselves and our Posterity." Gifted with the quill, Morris was not going to endorse such a dull passage. A preamble, he knew, had to sing; it had to stir the souls of a skeptical populace. Morris understood that preambles serve multiple purposes: 1) They announce the very purpose of a constitution; 2) they articulate a nation's top priorities; 3) they use exalted language intended to inspire; and, 4) they clearly, and unequivocally, identify the sovereign. (More recent constitutional preambles also invariably tell the story of a nation's shameful or troubled past - South Africa's is probably the best example - but that was not the common practice in the 18th century.); Morris relished the task of crafting an introduction to the Constitution that would endure through time. His first order of business was to shift the locus of power from the individual states to the whole, undifferentiated "People." It was a mighty lift. Most in the early Republic identified themselves as citizens of the states in which they resided. Thomas Jefferson famously pronounced, "Virginia, Sir, is my country." So did John Adams, though his country was Massachusetts. The importance of Morris' revision cannot be overstated. The revolutionary transfer of political power from the states under the Articles of Confederation

to the national government under the Constitution was denoted by his pen. Turning "We the People of the States" into "We, the People of the United States" marked a complete philosophical transformation. Federal political power would forever derive from the enthusiastic consent of the universal governed and not from the reluctant generosity of the discrete states. Sovereignty shifted right then and there. The notion of a collective national people was born with that critical modification. We became true U.S. citizens in that moment.; Morris' next order of business was to announce the very purpose of the Constitution itself. The Pennsylvanian knew that it could be a powerful instrument to achieve the highest order ambitions: justice, freedom, security, prosperity and so on. In sum, the ingredients of a "more perfect Union." But these ambitions had to be conveyed, they had to be revealed. Don't leave the people guessing as to what the Constitution endeavored to achieve, Morris thought.; Morris' final maneuver was to double down on the importance of the Preamble to the flow of the entire Constitution. The Committee of Detail version implied that the Preamble was considered different, apart, distinct from the seven articles that made up the body of the charter. We know that because the draft used the word "following," as in "We [the people of the separate states] do ordain, declare and establish the following Constitution for the Government of Ourselves and our Posterity." Morris thought the Preamble was an essential element of the constitutional text, equal to, or even greater than, the clauses that trailed. He replaced "the following" with the word "this." The new language read, "We, the People of the United States of America ... do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America." It was a small, but powerfully significant revision.; And just to bring it all home, Morris concluded the Preamble by repeating the phrase, "United States of America." A "Constitution for the Government" simply would not do, Morris asserted. It wasn't any old "Government" we were constituting. This Constitution and these United States were special.; Now, to our collective challenge. We stand today polarized. Do "We, the People" now take it mostly for granted that the country's mission, both at its Founding and presently, is 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?" I hope not.; Let's assume we don't take our collective mission for granted. We are still obligated - compelled even - to ask a few fundamental questions: How well are we doing in achieving these highest order principles? How successfully have we established Justice? Are we enjoying a period of domestic Tranquility? Do we honestly secure the Blessings of Liberty for all? Do we even know how to promote the general Welfare anymore? Gouverneur Morris would expect that asking these questions - and then honestly answering them - is the least we can do.; "News literacy is the ability to identify what information you can trust, share, and act on to become a better-informed and more engaged participant in the civic life of your community and our country," writes Silva.; Silva is senior director of professional and community learning at the News Literacy Project. He is a former classroom teacher.; In the weeks following the 2020 presidential election, many of us watched from the sidelines as misinformation from political figures, social media feeds, podcasts and pundits stoked anger and suspicion that someone had tampered with ballots and voting machines. These false beliefs about a "stolen election" took root, spread and grew into a movement that led to the Jan. 6, 2021,

insurrection at the Capitol. Despite overwhelming, verifiable evidence to the contrary, those beliefs persist today.; With another presidential contest likely featuring the same two candidates, it's hardly surprising that election rumors and misinformation already are spreading, with former President Donald Trump urging crowds to "guard the vote" at polling places in Philadelphia, Detroit and Atlanta.; Ahead of the elections and during National News Literacy Week, we can each take important steps to ensure our emotions and beliefs are not being manipulated by misinformation. If we are aware of and practice news literacy skills, we can ensure our information is credible and comes from reputable sources. By doing so, we can take action to avoid a repeat of Jan. 6.; ; Sign up for The Fulcrum newsletter; News literacy is the ability to identify what information you can trust, share, and act on to become a better-informed and more engaged participant in the civic life of your community and our country. It teaches you how to navigate our challenging and complex information landscape, helping you learn how to think about the information you consume, not what to think about it. News literacy gives you the tools and skills to evaluate the credibility of news and other information and determine the quality and reliability of what you consume. It also explores the processes and standards that journalists follow to report the news as fairly and accurately as possible.; News is meant to inform you; credible, standards-based news does not take a stance on issues. It gives you the who, what, when, where and why and provides that information from multiple, credible sources with an emphasis on fairness and accuracy. Unfortunately, a great deal of information out there might look like news but, instead, is meant to persuade or influence you, such as punditry. Opinion journalism should follow ethical standards, like providing evidence for claims, presenting logical arguments and frequently acknowledging conflicting views. Opinion pieces that cherry-pick data, leave out important context or use logical fallacies are not quality journalism - they are misleading and unfair.; ; No one wants to be misled. To make sure the news we are getting shows the full story, consider the following;; All of these are essential factors to consider before acting on information.; Differences of opinion are valuable and essential to the marketplace of ideas (which the Free Speech Center at Middle Tennessee State University says, "refers to the belief that the test of the truth or acceptance of ideas depends on their competition with one another and not on the opinion of a censor.") But truth is supported by facts, and facts are supported by evidence.; Ordinary voters can't control what politicians and pundits say, but we don't have to subject ourselves to another election cycle marred by misinformation meant to confuse and anger us. We can use news literacy skills to find credible information and discern facts from fiction. We can push back on falsehoods and fake claims. With news literacy, we can reclaim our power to determine the truth.; The Fulcrum daily platform is where insiders and outsiders to politics are informed, meet, talk, and act to repair\_x000D\_

**our democracy and make it live and work in our everyday lives. Now more than ever our democracy needs a trustworthy\_x000D\_**

**outlet**

**Scraped text from their about page of their website:** Titles: The Fulcrum - About Us

**Headings:** Our Mission; Our funders; EDITORIAL & REPORTING GUIDELINES; Our staff; Advisory board; Board Members; Contact us

**Paragraphs:** The Fulcrum is a platform where insiders and outsiders to politics are informed, meet, talk, and act to repair our democracy and make it live and work in our everyday lives.; ; The Fulcrum is a project of and funded by the Bridge Alliance Education Fund. Founding funds were provided by: Hewlett Foundation, the Bridge Alliance Education Fund, Arnold Ventures, the Unite America Institute, the Gaia Fund, Craig Newmark Philanthropies, the Lizzie and Jonathan M. Tisch Foundation and the Thornburg Foundation. We are also beneficiaries of the federal Paycheck Protection Program.; Editorial and journalistic integrity is integral to our ability to achieve our mission of being a trusted platform where insiders and outsiders to politics are informed, meet, talk and act to repair our democracy.; It is critical that we adhere to foundational principles and values expressed here in order to garner the confidence and respect of our readers. We cannot foster the citizenship and culture we espouse without this commitment.; Therefore, in an effort to be impartial and to publish content that offers equity, opportunity and adherence to facts, we will;; Feedback and corrections; When The Fulcrum has content that presents a point of view, it will be clearly identified and labeled as such. As opposed to news reporting, these writings will be given more latitude as to personal and artistic expressions, so long as they are not inaccurate or defamatory.; ; Sign up for The Fulcrum newsletter; The Fulcrum will not lobby for or endorse candidates.; We are bound by a rigorous prohibition against lobbying for and/or endorsing candidates.; The Fulcrum's intent is to be objective in the editing process to ensure that the intent of the writer or producer is not altered.; The Fulcrum is committed to clearly identifying our sources. Best practice dictates that there must be at least two independent sources on the record (one might be a document) before publishing controversial factual assertions.; The Fulcrum encourages our staff and guest columnists to consider diversity in race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, geographic and economic status as a positive value when sourcing articles and essays.; Due to the complexity of operating a news and opinion publication, it is impossible for this document to cover all possible situations. Those items not specifically covered will be guided by the principles of fairness, transparency and desire to adhere to generally accepted journalistic principles.; Debilyn Molineaux, co-publisher; David L. Nevins, co-publisher; Mitchell Schmale, general manager; David Meyers, executive editor; Sara Swann, staff writer; Jeff Clements, columnist; Brad Fitch, columnist; Chris Gates, columnist; Mark Gerzon, columnist; Dr. Ivan Douglas Hicks, columnist; Mario H. Lopez, columnist; Carolyn Lukensmeyer, columnist; Manu Meel, columnist; Dr. Robert Pearl, columnist; Lisa T. Rice, columnist; Brian Rubin, columnist; Pete Weichlein, columnist; Wendy Willis, columnist; Layla Zaidane, columnist; Eliza Carney, contributing writer; The Advisory Board provides guidance to the The Fulcrum team by validating our mission, reviewing our work and suggesting future endeavors. While the board does not set policy, its members play a significant role in advising senior leadership on best practices, areas of coverage and strategic planning. Members of the board are not compensated for their time, nor do they hold a financial stake in The Fulcrum.; Potential advisers are invited to join the board based on their understanding of the media landscape and the mission of The Fulcrum. Advisers are

expected to be regular readers and promoters of The Fulcrum's work.; ; Eric Ashman, president M.M.LaFleur, founder of Bothered Mind Advisors; Ashman is the president of M.M.LaFleur, and previously served as president of Group Nine Media and as the CFO of the Huffington Post. Ashman is on the advisory board of EforAll Roxbury, an organization with the mission of accelerating economic and social impact in underserved communities through inclusive entrepreneurship. He is a member of the Leadership Council of Voter Choice Massachusetts, working to implement Ranked Choice Voting in cities and towns across the state. Ashman is also the founder of Bothered Mind Advisors, where he regularly teaches the concepts of building scalable, profitable startups through his Pivot to Profitability framework.; ; Sign up for The Fulcrum newsletter; ; Lisa Brown, vice president & general counsel, Georgetown University; Brown provides general legal counsel to the President, the University's governing boards, and its senior academic and administrative officers among other duties. Prior to joining Georgetown, she served in the Obama administration, first as White House staff secretary then as acting chief performance officer at the Office of Management and Budget. Prior to joining the administration, Brown served for six years as the executive director of the American Constitution Society for Law and Policy.; ; Michael Golden, author, Unlock Congress; Golden is a journalist, social entrepreneur and public speaker who serves as senior fellow at the Adlai Stevenson Center on Democracy. He gives presentations on \_x000D\_

**Unlock Congress to universities, companies, non-profit organizations and political associations. Golden has worked as a campaign manager and communications strategist on political races for the White House, U.S. Senate, and U.S. House of Representatives. He co-founded One Million Degrees, a non-profit scholarship program for low-income community college students in Illinois.; ; Myra Miller, senior vice president, The Winston Group; Miller has worked with House and Senate Republicans on strategic planning, communications and policy issues for more than a decade. Recently she has worked on a variety of policy issues and bipartisan initiatives specifically dealing with governance, including Congressional reform, and improving political discourse. She has done research on women voters and has worked with Members of Congress on how to talk to women voters. Miller has worked with Fortune 100 corporations and associations on key policy issues including health care, medical innovation and tax policy, as well as brand reputation.; ; ; David H. Nevins, president & CEO, Nevins & Associates; David is president & CEO of Nevins & Associates, a communications firm based in Towson, Md. Prior to founding Nevins & Associates in 1983, David served as the Director of Marketing for both Towson University and the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra. In 2001, he was tapped by the CEO of Comcast to employ his marketing expertise as president of the company's regional sports network, Comcast SportsNet Mid-Atlantic. David transformed the operation into a nationally recognized regional network with extensive local news and programming that garnered seven Emmy Awards. David is a former Chairman of the Board of Regents for the University System of Maryland, chaired the Maryland Public Broadcasting Commission and the Maryland Higher Education Loan Corporation, and served as president of the Jewish National Fund. He**

**has served on the faculty of Johns Hopkins University, University of Maryland, and Towson University.;** ; **Ellen Shearer, executive editor, Medill Washington; Shearer hold a number of positions at Medill:** the William F. Thomas Professor, executive editor of Medill Washington and co-director of the Medill National Security Journalism initiative. She has written and taught extensively in the areas of political journalism, national security journalism and watchdog journalism. Shearer is a past president of the Washington Press Club Foundation and since 1999 has coordinated judging for the White House Correspondents' Association's awards. Her most recent book is "Truth Counts: A Practical Guide for News Consumers."; assets.rbl.ms; Please share your ideas, suggestions and criticisms with us. We want your feedback.; To submit news stories, events or job listings, or to comment on our coverage, email [newsroom@fulcrum.us](mailto:newsroom@fulcrum.us). To suggest pop-culture content, email [pop-culture@fulcrum.us](mailto:pop-culture@fulcrum.us). To submit a proposal for our Opinion section, email [opinions@fulcrum.us](mailto:opinions@fulcrum.us).; To report an error or complaint, please email [\\_x000D\\_](mailto:_x000D_)

**newsroom@fulcrum.us. We review every complaint and request for a correction carefully. When we determine a correction is in order, we fix the error in the article and append a note explaining what was corrected.;** **To support our work through a donation, contact Kristin Becvar.;** **If you do not see your view or perspective represented in The Fulcrum, please email us at [\\_x000D\\_](mailto:_x000D_)**

**[opinions@fulcrum.us](mailto:opinions@fulcrum.us).**

**Scraped text from their mission page of their website:** Titles: NA

**Headings:** NA

**Paragraphs:** NA

**Scraped text from their history page of their website:** Titles: NA

**Headings:** NA

**Paragraphs:** NA

**Summaries of Links:** The organization's primary focus appears to be on promoting civic education and fostering informed public discourse. It offers a range of resources, including articles, quizzes, podcasts, and videos, covering topics such as voting, redistricting, campaign finance, and media literacy. The organization also hosts events and provides educational materials for students and teachers. Additionally, it maintains a directory of organizations working on similar issues and offers a newsletter to keep subscribers updated on its activities. The organization's website also features links to its social media accounts, indicating its commitment to engaging with the public through various platforms."""