

HIGH

HIGH MUSEUM OF ART ATLANTA

1280 PEACHTREE STREET, N.E. • ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30309

Randall Suffolk
Nancy and Holcombe T. Green, Jr. Director
High Museum of Art

Randall Suffolk became the Nancy and Holcombe T. Green, Jr. Director of the High Museum of Art in November 2015. He sets the vision for the High's curatorial program and collection, as well as enhancing the visitor experience through audience engagement and community-focused initiatives.

Prior to joining the High, Suffolk served as director of Philbrook Museum of Art in Tulsa, Okla. from 2007 through 2015, where he designed and implemented a comprehensive plan that aligned the institution's programming with the interests of Tulsa residents. This initiative resulted in a 63-percent increase in attendance; 293-percent growth in educational program participation; and a 22-percent rise in membership. The success of this institutional strategy and program was nationally recognized in a 2013 study led by independent researchers Anne Bergeron and Beth Tuttle in partnership with the American Alliance of Museums (AAM), in which Philbrook was highlighted as one of six national models of community engagement.

Suffolk also initiated a reorganization of Philbrook that established new education, curatorial, and communications departments. Under his leadership, Philbrook's operating budget grew by 40 percent and the permanent collection increased by more than 24 percent by adding 2,800 new works. He also spearheaded the planning for *Philbrook Downtown*, a 30,000-square-foot satellite facility designed by Gluckman Mayner Architects, which opened in 2013. The space extended the programming in Philbrook's main building with galleries dedicated to modern and contemporary art. The new space is also home of the Eugene B. Adkins Study Center for Native American and Southwestern Art, which was founded under Suffolk's leadership.

At Philbrook, Suffolk also forged strategic partnerships at the local, national, and international level that built upon the museum's curatorial and community-focused programming. Its three-exhibition partnership with the Vitra Design Museum (2012 – 2016) and five-year collaboration with the Vilcek Foundation supported new exhibitions and related scholarship. In addition, Suffolk initiated new alliances with more than 30 non-profit and cultural organizations in the Tulsa region, ranging from the Tulsa Opera to the John Hope Franklin Center for Reconciliation that expanded on other community initiatives implemented under his leadership.

Prior to joining Philbrook, Suffolk was the director of The Hyde Collection Art Museum in Glens Falls, N.Y., from 1999 through 2007 and had previously held positions there as deputy director and curator. During his tenure at The Hyde Collection, Suffolk's focus included building constituency; overseeing a 7,000-square-foot museum expansion; guiding the \$1 million-dollar award-winning restoration of historic Hyde House; and initiating the successful creation of three sister endowment funds to sustain exhibitions, acquisitions and conservation. He has also curated more than 25 exhibitions and has participated as a juror, panel member or guest lecturer for a variety of art-related organizations and programs.

Suffolk holds a Master's degree in art history from Bryn Mawr College, a Master's degree in higher education administration from Columbia University, and a Bachelor of Arts degree from Connecticut College. He is also a graduate of the Getty Leadership Institute.