

Page Talbott Ph.D.

Page Talbott is Principal at Talbott Exhibits and Planning, established in 2013. Projects have included interpretive planning for the Academy of Natural Sciences of Drexel University and for the National Liberty Museum, program and strategic planning for ArtReach, interpretive planning for The Woodlands, and exhibition and interpretive planning for the Willard Library, Evansville, IL.

She served as President/CEO of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania from April 2013 through June 2016.

Until 2013, Talbott was Principal at Remer & Talbott, a consulting firm providing exhibition and interpretive planning services to the cultural community since 2008. Remer & Talbott projects included the planning and curation of the Benjamin Franklin Museum at Franklin Court, new exhibits for the Willard Library in Evansville, Indiana, and the Carpenters' Company in Philadelphia; an interpretive furnishing plan for the Dey Mansion in Wayne, NJ; and interpretive planning for Ft. Ligonier and the Gettysburg Foundation. Other Remer & Talbott projects included the "Genius: A Celebration of American Invention," for the Los Angeles County Fair 2012; the 200th anniversary exhibition for the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia, "The Academy at 200: The Nature of Discovery"; the "Civil War Road Show," an exhibition in an expandable 53 ft. tractor trailer that will travel to every Pennsylvania County during the commemoration of the Civil War and the exhibition; "From the Absence of All to the Presence of Many: The Unfinished Business of Women's Equality," an exhibition at the National Constitution Center; and an interpretive furnishing plan for the John Rankin House, a property of the Ohio Historical Society. Other clients included the Barnes Foundation, the John James Audubon Center at Mill Grove, the Edward M. Kennedy Institute of the Senate, the American Revolution Center, and the Minnesota History Center.

From 2003 to 2008, Dr. Talbott was Associate Director and Chief Curator of the Benjamin Franklin Tercentenary. The international award-winning traveling exhibition "Benjamin Franklin: In Search of a Better World" opened at the National Constitution Center in Philadelphia in December 2005. Talbott oversaw all aspects of the exhibition's travel to several venues in the United States and abroad (St. Louis, Houston, Denver, Atlanta, Paris—where the exhibition was titled "Benjamin Franklin: Homme du science, homme du monde"). She was also the editor and an author of the companion catalog—*Benjamin Franklin: In Search of a Better World*, published by Yale University Press in November 2005—as well as the co-author of *Franklin: A Guide to the Exhibition*, published by the Philadelphia Museum of Art for the Benjamin Franklin Tercentenary. She also co-curated, with Rosalind Remer, the traveling American Library Association exhibition, based on the Franklin exhibition, which will circulate from 2007 to 2011 to

40 libraries in 31 states. Remer & Talbott also worked with the Minnesota History Center to prepare this exhibition for a second tour, which opened in St. Paul, MN, in late 2009 and traveled to an additional four cities (Santa Ana, CA; Pittsburgh, PA; Grand Rapids, MI; and Washington, DC).

Before establishing Remer & Talbott, Dr. Talbott was an independent curator and consultant for museums, historical societies, and historic house museums. She provided interpretive and historic furnishings consulting services for a variety of sites, including *The George Read II House*, Newcastle, Delaware; *Trout Hall*, Allentown, Pennsylvania; *Maxwell Mansion* and the *Rittenhouse Homestead*, Germantown, Pennsylvania; *The Grange*, Havertown, Pennsylvania; *Hope Lodge*, Ft. Washington, Pennsylvania; *Slateford Farm* and *Millbrook School*, Delaware Water Gap National Recreation Area, Pennsylvania (NPS); *Hampton House*, Towson, Maryland (NPS); *Bulloch Hall*, Roswell, Georgia; *Conklin House*, Babylon, New York; *Campbell House*, St. Louis, Missouri; *Historic Woodville*, Washington, Pennsylvania; *Eisenhower National Historic Site* in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania (NPS); the *Winterthur Museum*, Winterthur, Delaware; *Drumthwacket* and *Historic Morven*, Princeton, NJ; *Andrew Low House*, *Isaiah Davenport House* and *Owens-Thomas House*, Savannah, Georgia, and the *Decatur House*, Washington, D.C.

In 2000, she curated the exhibition “Two Hundred Years of Caring: The Lancaster County Almshouse and Hospital,” the recipient of awards from the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission and the American Association of State and Local History. In 1999 she curated *Boston in the Age of Neoclassicism* and wrote the essay for the catalog of the same name. From 1996–1998, she served as Project Director of the Sesquicentennial Celebration, Moore College of Art and Design in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, resulting in two exhibitions and publications—in 1998 she co-curated the traveling exhibition *The Philadelphia Ten: A Women’s Artist Group 1917-1945* and co-authored the catalog of the same name. She was also co-editor of and contributor to *Philadelphia’s Cultural Landscape: The Sartain Family Legacy*, published by Temple University Press in 2000 (winner of the Ewall Newman Award from the American Historical Print Collectors Association and the Philadelphia Book Guild Award). She was the guest curator for *Classical Savannah: Fine and Decorative Arts 1800-1840* at the Telfair Museum in 1995 and author of the accompanying catalog.

She also served for 15 years as Senior Arts and Culture Consultant to The Barra Foundation.

Page Talbott holds a B.A. from Wellesley College, an M.A. from the University of Delaware/ Winterthur Program in American Material Culture (where her thesis topic was the *Boston Furniture Industry, 1810–1835*), and an M.A. and Ph.D. in American Civilization from the University of Pennsylvania. The subject of her dissertation was the *Philadelphia Furniture Industry 1850–1880*. Additional professional training includes courses provided by The Graduate School of Business, Stanford University in partnership with National Arts Strategies, and the Future Search Network.

Dr. Talbott has lectured and written on a variety of topics, including the Classical Revival in America, Victorian furniture, Boston classical furniture, furnishing the historic house museum, women’s art education, and Benjamin Franklin’s domestic life. She has

published articles, reviews and essays in such periodicals as *American Art Review*, *The Catalogue of Antiques and Fine Arts*, *The Decorative Arts Journal*, *The Magazine Antiques*, *The Museologist*, *Maine Antiques Digest*, *Nineteenth Century*, *Pennsylvania Heritage*, *Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography*, and *Winterthur Portfolio*, among others. Contributions to additional museum exhibition catalogs include *Innovative Furniture in America*; "The Office in the Nineteenth Century," in *Wooton Patent Desks: A Place for Everything and Everything in its Place*; and *Furniture by Philadelphia Woodworkers*. She was a contributor to Clement E. Conger and Alexandra Rollins, *Treasures of State: Fine and Decorative Arts in the Diplomatic Reception Rooms of the U.S. Department of State* (1991); *Three Centuries of American Art*, the bicentennial exhibition catalog of the Philadelphia Museum of Art; and *Masterpieces of American Furniture from the Munson-Williams-Proctor Institute*.

Dr. Talbott served for 16 years as a board member of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania (Executive Committee; chair, Collections and Programs), as board chair and secretary of the board of the Center for Conservation of Art and Historical Artifacts, and is a former member of the board of the Winterthur Museum and Country Estate.

Former Governor Tom Ridge named her a Distinguished Daughter of Pennsylvania in October 2015.

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