



SARASOTA INTERNATIONAL DESIGN SUMMIT 2006

TRANSFORMING PEOPLE, PLACES & PRODUCTS

Dr. Larry Thompson

President, Ringling School of Art & Design

Larry Thompson became the sixth President of Ringling School of Art and Design in Sarasota, Florida on July 1, 1999.

Prior to coming to Ringling, Thompson was the first President and Chief Executive Officer of the Flint Cultural Center located in Flint, Michigan. He served in that role from 1993-1999. The Flint Cultural Center is a 30- acre campus encompassing the nine leading cultural institutions of the Greater Flint Area.

Prior to Flint, Thompson served for four years as the Director and Chief Executive Officer for the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum in Cleveland, Ohio. In essence, Thompson was responsible for making the Hall of Fame happen, including raising the money for it, working with architect I. M. Pei to design it, and getting it ready to be constructed.

Before the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame and Museum experience, Thompson served for seven years as Special Assistant to the President of The Ohio State University.

Thompson is a lawyer and an educator. He received his Juris Doctorate summa cum laude from The Ohio State University and a Master of Science in educational administration and counseling from California State University Los Angeles. He was an adjunct professor at the University of Michigan-Flint in the Honors department and taught as an adjunct professor in the College of Law at Ohio State for six years.

He is the President of the Sarasota County Arts Council and Vice Chairman of the Van Wezel Foundation. He is also on the boards of the Economic Development Corporation of Sarasota County, the Community Health Corporation for Sarasota Memorial Hospital, Coastal Behavioral Healthcare, SunTrust Bank, Sarasota Season of Sculpture. He is also a member of the Sarasota Chamber of Commerce Arts Task Force, and the Community Advisory Board of Junior League of Sarasota. In 1997 he was appointed by Secretary Richard Riley to the America Goes Back to School Steering Committee headed by Tipper Gore.

The awards Thompson has received include Arts Administrator of the Year 1997; the Friend of Education award by Delta Kappa Gamma Society International, and the National Association of College and University Attorneys Fellow award for exemplary service on behalf of college and university clients.

Thompson enjoys reading, golf, all visual and performing arts, traveling, and, of course, rock and roll.



Resource Links:

[Ringling School of Art & Design](#)

[Maddux Business Report](#)

KEYNOTE: October 9, 2006

SARASOTA INTERNATIONAL DESIGN SUMMIT

October 9-11, 2006

www.sarasotadesignsummit.com