

STEPHEN ESTRADA

Biographical Information

As Director of the United States Diplomacy Center, Stephen Estrada is in charge of planning a new museum and visitor center at the U.S. Department of State in Washington, DC. The U.S. Diplomacy Center will be an exciting, interactive destination that welcomes visitors to the Department and provides opportunities for participation and involvement. He leads the current U.S. Diplomacy Center traveling exhibits, conference and education programs that engage the public in hands-on learning about diplomacy.

Stephen is formerly Director of Design at the Smithsonian's National Air and Space Museum. There, he oversaw the museum's twenty-one National Mall galleries with over 200,000 square feet of space and 9 million visitors per year. His office was responsible for planning the design and interpretive programs for the Steven F. Hazy Center, the Museum's 700,000 square foot expansion in Northern Virginia. Before that he served as Senior Designer at the National Archives in Washington, DC. There he produced major exhibitions on American history and developed the Archive's master plan for the Rotunda, theater, exhibition and education spaces. Stephen was exhibition designer and production manager at the National Museum of American Art, Renwick Gallery, the Smithsonian's preeminent arts and crafts museum. He taught in the George Washington University Museum Studies Program and has consulted on museum planning and design to organizations across the country.

Stephen studied fine art at the Corcoran School of Art and received his Masters Degree in Arts Management from The American University in Washington DC. He is a practicing artist and shows throughout the region. He is married to Leslie Smith, a psychoanalyst in private practice and has two remarkable teenage daughters. He is also an avid handball player.