

November 2006

Penny Egan appointed to the board of the Geffrye Museum

David Lammy, Minister for Culture, has appointed Penny Egan to the board of the Geffrye Museum. The term will be for a three-year period, from 01 December 2006 to 30 November 2009

Biographical Notes

Mrs Penny Egan

Penny has been Executive Director of the Royal Society for the encouragement of Arts, Manufactures & Commerce (RSA) for the last eight years stepping down this summer. She was an internal appointment and prior to that she was Programme Development Director RSA 1994-1998. Her early career includes the roles of Press and Publicity Officer at the Crafts Council and Press Officer at No 10 Downing Street. At the RSA she set up the Arts in Education Programme influencing the Department of Heritage's first policy document on the arts in schools 'Setting the Scene'. Penny built up the RSA's wide-ranging lecture programme as one of the country's leading platforms for intellectual discussion. As Executive Director she created an £10m endowment fund for the Society, conceived the Society's 250th anniversary programme, increased the number of its Fellows to 25,000 and ran a successful commercial hospitality business. She has represented the Society on public platforms and in the media. Penny is a Member of the Design Council and a Trustee of Sing London. Previously she was a Trustee of the Campaign for Learning and a Commissioner appointed by the Mayor to the Creative Industries Commission for London.

Penny has not undertaken any political activity in the last five years.

Notes for Editors

1. The Geffrye Museum is a specialist museum of English homes and gardens, particularly of the urban middle classes. It is set in beautiful Grade 1 listed, eighteenth-century buildings, formerly the almshouses of the Ironmongers' Company, located in Shoreditch, East London. Established in 1914 by the London County Council, the museum was transferred to an independent trust in 1990 and is supported by government grant through the Department for Culture, Media and Sport.
2. The post is not remunerated. Reasonable expenses can be claimed.
3. This appointment has been made in accordance with the Office of the Commissioner for Public Appointments' Code of Practice.
4. All public appointments are made on merit and political activity plays no part in the selection process.