

Anthea M. Hartig, Ph.D.
Elizabeth MacMillan Director
Brief Bio



Since 2019, Anthea M. Hartig, Ph.D., has been honored to serve as the Elizabeth MacMillan Director of the Smithsonian's National Museum of American History and the first woman to hold the position since the museum opened in 1964. Hartig oversees over 200 employees, a budget of nearly \$50 million and a collection that includes 1.7 million objects and more than three shelf-miles of archives. The Museum welcomes over two million visitors annually and millions more online.

Previously, Hartig was Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer of the California Historical Society. An award-winning public historian and cultural heritage expert, she is dedicated to making the nation's rich history accessible and relevant. She earned her doctorate and master's degrees in history at the University of California, Riverside, her bachelor's degree at the University of California, Los Angeles and studied as an undergraduate and graduate student at the College of William and Mary. She served as the president of the Organization of American Historians in 2024, capping a five-year commitment to the nation's largest organization of United States historians.

In 2026, she was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in its semiquincentennial class.