

# *University of Delaware Honorary Degree*

## **ANGELICA ZANDER RUDENSTINE**

DOCTOR OF HUMANITIES

**Respected researcher and curator of art**, you earned both Bachelor and Master of Arts degrees with honors at Oxford University as well as a Master of Arts degree with distinction in Classical Archaeology at Smith College. In 1961 you began your career at the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, where you were responsible for research in European paintings.

You later were commissioned by the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum to catalog the museum's entire permanent collection, and went on to prepare a catalog of the Peggy Guggenheim Collection. While serving as an adjunct professor at the Institute of Fine Arts New York University, you cataloged the Pulitzer Collection.

You served as curator or co-curator of several major exhibitions, including The George Costakis Collection at the Guggenheim Museum; Kazimir Malevich at the National Gallery and the Metropolitan Museum; and Piet Mondrian at the National Gallery and the Museum of Modern Art.

**Accomplished author**, in conjunction with your cataloging and curating work, you have written or edited six books and exhibition catalogs that have added immensely to our knowledge and appreciation of art history. You have served on the editorial boards of the *Art Bulletin* and *The American Scholar* as well as on publication committees for several organizations.

**Creative and effective champion of museums and art conservation**, your career as a researcher and curator would have been impressive on its own, but you went on to contribute so much more to the world of art through your work from 1993 to 2010 as Program Officer for Museums and Art Conservation at the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. During your tenure, the program awarded 358 grants totaling more than \$250 million.

At the time of your retirement, Foundation President Don Randel praised you for having left "a series of indelible marks on the world of museums and art conservation." Because of your efforts, for example, the curatorial and scholarly capacity has been enhanced at many museums; college and university art museums now have the ability to contribute more to the academic life of their schools; advanced conservation training programs have been strengthened; new scientific methods have improved art conservation practices; and the field of photographic conservation has been further developed.

You have accomplished these important advances through your unceasing advocacy for the highest standards of art conservation and your rare ability to bring museum professionals, conservators, scientists, and academic art historians together in collaborative partnerships.

Marcel Proust said, "Only through art can we get outside of ourselves and know another's view of the universe . . . and see landscapes which would otherwise have remained unknown to us. . . . Thanks to art, instead of seeing a single world, our own, we see it multiply until we have before us as many worlds as there are individual artists." Angelica, you have always recognized that art is essential to life, and you have made it your mission to preserve the art of the past. Because of your foresight, commitment and creativity, these artworks will be available to enrich the lives of many generations to come.

Therefore, under the authority of the Board of Trustees of the University of Delaware, I have the pleasure and honor of conferring upon you, Angelica Zander Rudenstine, the degree of Doctor of Humanities and do declare you entitled to all the rights, honors, and privileges to that degree appertaining throughout the world. In testimony thereof, I am pleased to present to you this diploma.

*A. Gilchrist Sparks III*  
May 26, 2012