

## W. TODD GROCE

Todd Groce is President and Chief Executive Officer of the Georgia Historical Society, the premier, independent, statewide institution responsible for collecting, examining, and teaching Georgia history. Founded in 1839, GHS is the South's oldest continuously operated historical society. It is headquartered in Savannah with an office in Atlanta and has 6,000 individual members and nearly 200 affiliate chapters.

Born in Virginia and reared in Tennessee, Dr. Groce was educated at the University of Memphis, where he graduated *cum laude* and with honors in history, and at the University of Tennessee, where he earned an M.A. and Ph.D. in history. While in graduate school he taught American history at the University of Tennessee and Maryville College.

In 1990 Dr. Groce left the academy and began his career in public history. He served five years as executive director of the East Tennessee Historical Society, taking that institution to the next level through the development of a new regional history museum. In November 1994 Dr. Groce was named executive director of the Georgia Historical Society, and in April 2006 he was elected the institution's 43rd president.

Dr. Groce is the author and editor of two books on the Civil War period and has written over 40 articles, essays, and book reviews. He frequently lectures on the Civil War and U.S. military history and has made television appearances on the Discovery Channel, Georgia Public Television, C-SPAN, and the History Channel.

Dr. Groce is a graduate of Leadership Georgia, a past president of the Rotary Club of Savannah, and past Governor of the Society of Colonial Wars in the State of Georgia. Currently he serves as a trustee of Savannah Country Day School and on the vestry of St. Peter's Episcopal Church, where he is also a youth leader and Sunday school teacher.

For the past three years, *Georgia Trend* magazine has listed him among the "100 Most Influential Georgians."

An avid outdoorsman and musician, Dr. Groce enjoys hiking, hunting and frightening small children with his singing voice. He has hiked every major Civil War battlefield and toured dozens of other battlefields across North America, the Caribbean, and Europe. He lives in Savannah with his wife and his daughter.