

## **Thomas V. Peters**

### **Director of Exterior Design**

### **Performance Cars**

A lifetime passion for cars and design fuels Tom Peters' work as the Director of Exterior Design of GM's Performance Car studio. Peters has spent his 30-year career designing numerous concept, production and specialty vehicles and mentoring hundreds of designers.

Since 2004, Peters' vast portfolio includes several Corvettes and Camaros as well as the Cadillac Sixteen concept. From 2009 through September 2013, his responsibilities also included oversight of the design team assigned to full-size trucks.

"The work on the 2014 Corvette has been especially rewarding for our team," said Peters. "Bringing the Stingray back has been a personal goal for well over a decade. We knew the Stingray name would have to be earned and deliver an incredible, purposeful visual impact – just as the original did in 1963. That visual impact is evident in fighter jets and the stingray animal itself. As with air craft and living forms, every transition on the Corvette Stingray surface serves a purpose executed with beauty and proportion."

Peters has served GM Design in a variety of roles.

After a very brief stint at GM Design in 1980 following his graduation from college, Peters returned in 1982 and spent the next six years in the Advanced Design and Production Studios of Pontiac and Chevrolet, did early concept work for the first Saturn vehicle, and worked on production and concept Camaros and Corvettes, including the Corvette Indy show vehicle and 1988 Pontiac Banshee Prototype.

In 1992, Peters moved to California to be director of GM's Advanced Concept Center. During his tenure, the ACC's design team led a number of high-profile projects that ranged from full-size trucks and alternative drive vehicles to championing progressive digital design development processes.

In 1995, Peters returned to the Motor City to work in Portfolio Development and Pontiac Production Studios. Subsequent assignments included vehicle chief designer for the Cadillac XLR roadster and the C6 Corvette.

Peters graduated from the Art Center College of Design in California with a degree in Transportation Design and fondly remembers the cross-country road trip in his '68 Galaxy to begin classes in the fall of 1976.

"Reaching California was one of the greatest feelings. It brought to life everything I had experienced about its car-crazy culture through movies, TV, music, the rat fink and Harry Bradley artwork in *Hot Rod* magazine, and my own drawings of cars like Ed "Big Daddy" Roth hot rods that helped propel me into car design."