



Thea Durfee Polancic

Thea Polancic is a passionate advocate for the power of business to create prosperity, beauty and happiness in the world. She is the Founder and Chair of the Chicago Chapter of Conscious Capitalism, Inc. (www.consciouscapitalism.org). Conscious Capitalism is a movement dedicated to elevating humanity through business, founded by John Mackey, CEO of Whole Foods.

The Chicago Chapter is the first in North America, and in less than 18 months it has grown to more than 1100 members. Under her leadership, the Chicago Chapter produces programs for the general public and private events for senior executives who are committed to leading organizations that are both purposeful and unapologetically profit-driven. As a result of her efforts, the international Conscious Capitalism Annual Conference has taken place in Chicago for the past two years. Thea is also a member of the global chapter advisory board for Conscious Capitalism, which now includes chapters in seven countries on five continents.

Thea is also the Managing Partner of ClearSpace, LLC (www.clearspace.net), a Chicago-based consulting firm that helps CEOs transform themselves, their teams and organizations to meet the challenges of the future and grow and thrive. Over the past 15 years, Thea has worked closely with many senior leadership teams to align their organizations with the principles of Conscious Capitalism: having a higher purpose, creating value for all stakeholders, developing servant leaders, and having healthy, values-based cultures. Her firm's clients include organizations large and small across the country. She is a founding mentor to Chicago accelerators TechStars Chicago and The Impact Engine. She is also on the Advisory Board of the Conscious Venture Lab in Columbia, Maryland; an accelerator for early stage conscious capitalist and purpose-driven companies.

Thea is a sought-after speaker on leadership and the future of business. She was recently the moderator of the Executive Club's

Thea Durfee Polancic

upcoming Leadership Circle Program “Integrating Purpose and Profit”, a panelist at the launch of the Cleveland Chapter of Conscious Capitalism on the topic of “The Power of Purpose: Imbuing It in Brand and Culture”. She was the opening speaker at the 2014 University of Chicago Booth Women Connect Conference on the topic of “Women’s Leadership and the Future of Conscious Capitalism”.