

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



2026 Keynote Speaker

Kathy Bonnafa
CEO, Combined Creative

Kathy Bonnafa is a visionary leader with over 35 years of experience in commercial real estate, investment strategy, and corporate governance. As CEO of Combined Creative, she oversees the diverse business and family office interests of Combined Properties Inc.'s owner, serving as a strategic advisor on corporate planning, growth, and capital allocation. Previously, Kathy served two decades as CEO/President of Combined Properties, Inc., a privately held commercial real estate company with a \$2 billion portfolio across the Washington, D.C. and Los Angeles metro markets.

During her tenure, Kathy led the firm's evolution into a vertically integrated investment platform, achieving record profitability and expansion through creative repositioning, disciplined capital strategy, and market and asset class diversification. She has successfully executed over \$2 billion in financing transactions and guided the company through major strategic milestones, including expansion into new markets, launching a development program, and initiating new business ventures.

Beyond her corporate leadership, Kathy serves on the Board of Directors of Burke & Herbert Bank and Burke & Herbert Financial Services Corporation, where she has played a key role in transformative governance initiatives such as a merger of equals, a NASDAQ listing, and executive leadership transitions. Known for her integrity, mentorship, and inclusive leadership style, she is also deeply committed to community engagement and women's empowerment initiatives.

A native of Vienna, Virginia, Kathy holds an MBA in Finance and Investments from The George Washington University and a BBA in Marketing and Management from James Madison University. She is an avid traveler, music enthusiast, and proud mother of two sons.