

Rita Perea Professional Biography

Rita Perea brings a powerful blend of passion and professionalism to both private- and public-sector organizations. As a leadership consultant, executive coach and keynote speaker, she shares her 25-plus years of experience with senior management in a wide range of industries.

Clients who have engaged her services include organizations and individuals from Team Quest International, the Meredith Corporation, Nationwide Insurance, the Iowa Banker's Association, Neighborhood Finance Corporation, Mercy Hospice, Hospice of Central Iowa, Iowa State University Administration, Iowa State University Foundation, Iowa Public Radio, Ankeny Schools, Waukee Schools, Iowa City Schools, just to name a few.

Rita specializes in working with senior leaders and their teams to successfully navigate the opportunities of their dynamic for-profit and not-for-profit worlds.

Rita holds both a Bachelor's degree and a Master's degree. She also possesses a Specialist's degree in Leadership and is currently a Doctoral degree candidate. Additionally, Mrs. Perea is certified as a Master Cognitive Coach and Spiritual Director.

Perea is the author of the soon-to-be released From Frantic to Fabulous: Transforming Your Work and Your World e-book series (Fall of 2014) and is a contributing author to the popular Awakening the Workplace: Achieving Connection, Fulfillment and Success at Work (2008).

Rita's professional affiliations include membership in the National Speakers Association, the American Society of Training and Development and the Society for Human Resource Managers. She is an active member of Rotary Club and has served in numerous leadership positions at the local, national and international levels. Rita is a graduate of the Leadership Iowa program and served on their Board of Governors for two terms.

Perea currently serves on the boards of the Des Moines Public Library Foundation and the Friends of the Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden. She was also recently appointed by Governor Terry Branstad to serve on the Iowa Engineering Examiners Board. In 2014, Rita created The Founder's Club to foster leadership skills and community involvement amongst young professionals.

In her free time, Rita developed a strong interest in gardening that led her to become certified as a Master Gardener. She specializes in creating calming outdoor spaces that encourage personal reflection. Perea founded The International Contemplative Gardening Association to foster a sense of community for this unique style of gardening.

Rita and her husband reside in the heartland of America, Des Moines, Iowa. They enjoy international travel and providing service to the global community through volunteering their time and talents.