

Fall 2026 Business/Civic Leadership Forum

SPEAKER

DONNA COLE

President/CEO at Cole Chemical
Owner, Cole Chemical



Biography

Ms. Donna Fujimoto Cole is a third generation Japanese American, born in Denver, Colorado and raised in the Rio Grande Valley. In 1980, she founded Cole Chemical & Distributing, Inc., at the request of her customers because of her responsiveness, attention to quality and delivery service providing industrial and process chemicals to various industries. Customers include Chevron, Exxon, Nippon Shokubai Americas, P66, and Toyota. She has started, sold, invested and divested many types of businesses from drilling loss circulation materials, chemical manufacturing, real estate, chemical distribution, warehousing, blending and packaging.

Donna's current leadership positions include: Commissioner on the Port of Houston's Marine Pilot's Board, the American Leadership Forum's Houston, Mayor of Houston's Asian Pacific American Advisory Board, The Rockwell Fund Board of Trustees, Houston Association of Producers, The Institute of Supply Management Executive Advisory Board, the U.S.- Japan Council's Legacy Board, National Veterans Network Board Member Emeritus, Advisory Board Member of the Friends of the National Asian Pacific American Museum, Hermann Park Conservancy Advisory Board, and the Museum of Fine Arts Houston Advisory Board Film Subcommittee and the State of Texas 2036 Board and Fit Houston's Advisory Board.

Ms. Cole served on President George H.W. Bush's Export Council. She was awarded the Order of the Rising Sun, Silver Rays, by the Japanese Emperor and Government of Foreign Affairs of Japan in November 2021.

Ms. Cole attended Pan American College and Southwest Texas Jr College, earned a diploma at Manpower Business Training Institute in computer programming and operations. Her continuing education includes the business executive programs at the Amos Tuck School of business and has also served on their Board of Trustees.

Donna tells great stories about strong women and supportive men in films, plays, and musicals to inspire and motivate millions of women to take care of themselves, their families and improve their communities.