

Born and raised in a suburb of Chicago, Patricia graduated with a B.A. in English Literature from Northern Illinois University in 1973. She taught high school English for three years in rural northern Illinois and in 1976 went back to Northern Illinois University and received an M.A. in English Literature in 1977. Upon receiving her M.A., she moved to New York City and in 1979 became a licensed real estate broker. She worked selling investment properties in Manhattan from 1980-1985 with Austin K. Haldenstein Realty and then opened an investment real estate brokerage firm, Hendler and Dimos, Inc., in 1985. While in NYC, she taught Real Estate courses at New York University's School for Continuing Education. Patricia left Manhattan in 1990 and moved to Lakeland where she continued selling and leasing commercial property. In 1995 she sold the Terrace Hotel by working with the LDDA on a tax credit deal with owner, and in 1996 started working at the Fearn Partnership which was located downtown where she wanted to concentrate her real estate efforts.

Since December 2003, Patricia has worked at Century Realty Funds, Inc., as a broker with Century Commercial Realty, LLC where she continues to specialize in office building sales, office leasing, and acquisition and disposition of shopping centers throughout the southeast. Patricia is a member of the Lakeland Rotary Club, serves on the boards of the Polk Museum of Art and Central Florida Speech and Hearing Center and on the Steering Committee for Lakeland Vision. She is an Advisory Board Member of the Polk Theatre. Her participation with the Lakeland Chamber of Commerce includes Board Member 1998-2001, Executive Committee Member 1999 and 2001, Education Committee 1996-2001, Leadership Lakeland Class of XII, and Chairperson of Leadership Lakeland Class XXIII. Previously Patricia has served on the boards of Friends of the Library, Learning Resource Center, Polk Works, Polk Business for World Class Education, American Cancer Society, Historic Lakeland, Inc., and Leadership Lakeland Alumni.