To the Woman of Influence Selection Committee:

It is my great privilege to write you this letter of recommendation and nominate my incredible business partner, Carrie Rhodes-Norris for the Woman Business Owner of the Year Award.

For over 20 years I have seen Carrie take on challenges, plan projects and run events. Each and every time she shatters the expectations of everyone around her. From being chosen to sing in Des Moines Opera performances as a young teenager, to adopting a son from Vietnam and a daughter from China, to becoming the youngest President of the Home Builders Association of Greater Des Moines, Carrie proves everyday that she is fearless and is made for leadership.

As a young woman in the construction industry, Carrie has faced very unique situations and challenges. As always, she has risen to the top! She has left her mark in almost every area of Des Moines home building. She has produced many remodeling projects featured in the Tour of Remodeled Homes as well as built spectacular homes in the 2011 and the 2012 HBA Home Show Expos. Her work can also be seen in publications such as DSM Magazine, Welcome Home, Des Moines Homestyle, Country Home, and Renovation Style. She has volunteered on many committees, the HBA Board of Directors and now ultimately serves as the President of the Home Builders Association.

It is no surprise that she has become a true leader and role model in this industry. Through her strength and moral character, Carrie has quickly and quietly led Grand Homes and Renovations from a start-up remodeling company to an award winning builder in 6 short years. Carrie has worked to grow the Grand Homes’ share of home remodeling every year, despite a weak economy. Her next focus is to position Grand Homes as a leader in the new home building arena as well.

I could write so much about the strengths and qualities of Carrie Rhodes-Norris but honestly her reputation speaks for itself. You won’t need to go far in our industry before you find someone who knows Carrie and could speak of her devotion to this business and her determination to make it an industry of high integrity. Carrie is an irreplaceable friend and partner in this business. She would make you so very proud as the recipient of the Woman Business Owner of the Year Award.

Thank you for your consideration,

David Kruse

Co-Owner, Grand Homes and Renovations