



May 21, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

I am writing to recommend Cyndi Pederson for this year's Women of Influence award. Cyndi has been a tireless advocate for the arts and the non-profit human services world for decades in the Des Moines area.

I came to know Cyndi when she was Director of the Department of Cultural Affairs for the state of Iowa over five years ago. I was new to Des Moines and Cyndi helped me navigate my way through a crowded cultural field to build what became the Des Moines Social Club (DMSC). Cyndi's time, advice and know-how was vital in the creation of our organization, and I daresay for many other cultural groups at that time.

I now know Cyndi as my partner at DMSC. We brought Cyndi on as COO this past January, and I can confidently say our organization would not be run with efficiency without Cyndi's influence, attention to detail and general limitless knowledge of the non-profit world and central Iowa. Cyndi has opened hundreds of doors for us in her short time with us already, and I could not ask for a better partner as we continue to grow as an organization.

Cyndi is one of the best advocates for our community, and she is more than deserving of a recognition and honor like this. She is definitely a woman of influence.

Sincerely,

Zachary Mannheimer
Executive Director
The Des Moines Social Club