

221 Walnut Street P (515) 246-2300
Des Moines, IA 50309 F (515) 246-2305
DesMoinesPerformingArts.org

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Dear friends:

It is my pleasure to support the nomination of Eileen Wixted as a Women of Influence for 2016.

We have worked with Eileen and her company on multiple occasions over the past ten years, and I view Eileen as a trusted advisor and a great counsel. On more than one occasion, Eileen has personally assisted us with challenging communications. Her direction has always been spot-on and has helped us when we have needed her the most. Among her many strengths, Eileen's calm demeanor, intelligence and professionalism are keys to her success.

It is important to note that she has advised the top executives of leading companies not only locally, but throughout the nation and around the world. Several months ago a colleague of mine in an adjoining state encountered some tough communication challenges around a controversial downtown redevelopment plan, and had remembered my association with a crisis communication expert. I recommended Eileen to my colleague, and several weeks later she called me and said, "How many ways can I say thank you for recommending Eileen!"

Eileen is a demonstrated leader, and has been very active in the community. She has been a personal donor to our organization for many years, and she and her company have provided financial support to our Iowa High School Musical Theater Awards for the past four years.

Eileen is clearly a woman of influence and she is very deserving of this award. Thank you for your consideration.

Very Truly Yours,

Jeff Chelesvig

President and CEO