

January 8, 2016

To Whom It May Concern:

It is my great pleasure to recommend Annie Sloterdijk Brandt for the Business Record's award of 40 Under 40, 2016.

I have known Annie for 3 years and count her among the standouts within our company, Thrivent Financial. Annie is a wise and trusted counsel and she is always available to those who seek out her thoughts. She excels at the art of asking questions and is very good at helping others come to their own solutions. Sometimes her questions are gentle and curious, and sometimes they are direct: she uses both to great effect.

I have witnessed Annie in her own struggles with the shadow side of business, whether that is perception by others or politics, and she always moves toward each challenge with a sense of curiosity and vulnerability. She is never defensive or cold. This has served her well in being able to address and move through difficulties toward a solution. She is a master problem-solver.

Personally, Annie is a dedicated wife, mother, and friend. Her life is shored up by her spiritual relationships and she is grounded in values of service. I am always impressed by Annie's energy and spirit of inclusiveness. She connects the world around her and brings communities together. I feel blessed to call her colleague and friend and have benefitted greatly from her gifts and talents. I look forward to seeing what she accomplishes in 2016.

Sincerely,

Jodi Mammenga
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