

11 January, 2016

**2016 Forty under 40 nominations:** **Jayna Fischbach, OTD, OTR/L**

It is with great pleasure that I nominate Dr. Jayna Fischbach for recognition as one of the Des Moines 2016 Forty under 40.

Jayna is a full time faculty member in the Occupational Therapy Doctorate Program at Drake University. She has earned her clinical doctorate in Occupational Therapy from Creighton University and a Bachelors of Arts in Biology and Spanish from Simpson College. Prior to beginning her position at Drake University, Jayna worked as a Pediatric Occupational Therapist in Springfield, MO. She currently continues to work clinically with children as an Occupational Therapist at ChildServ in Johnston, Iowa. She has also achieved a high level of specialty Occupational Therapy clinical training through the STAR Mentorship Program in Denver, Colorado. In addition to her work in the US, She has offered service in the Dominican Republic, where she has worked with children who have developmental challenges or disabilities and their families.

Dr. Fischbach has authored papers on the topic of doctoral residencies in our field, which is a novel experience for members of our profession. She has also completed research on the topic of cortical visual impairment and has several articles in review. Her service (community and volunteer activities) include: Courage League Sports, a program of sports inclusion for all; Des Moines Young Professionals; and the Upward basketball league. Jayna has an extensive history as an athlete throughout her high school and college years. She continues to practice yoga and to play both volleyball and basketball with regularity.

Jayna is a member of: the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA), the Iowa Occupational Therapy Association (IOTA), the World Federation of Occupational Therapists, the Iowa Rural Health Association, and the Des Moines Young Professional.

She is intelligent, appropriately assertive, takes on leadership, and is a true team member.

Jayna continues to demonstrate to us at Drake that she will be a future leader of our profession, as well. I value her greatly as a fellow faculty member and mentee. She gives me hope that what we now build in this college and greater community will serve the needs of Iowans for years and years to come. I am confident that she is a model individual who deserves to be recognized as one of Des Moines 2016 Forty under 40.

If there is any additional support or information that I may provide, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,



Ann Burkhardt, OTD, OTR/L, BCN, FAOTA

Professor, Chair & Director of the Occupational Therapy Doctoral Program

Drake University CPHS

Harvey Ingham 030

2507 University Avenue

Des Moines, Iowa 50311-4505

515-271-2900 phone

515-271-4171 FAX

ann.burkhardt@drake.edu