

# YOUNG PROFESSIONALS CONNECTION



An Initiative of

GREATER DES MOINES  
PARTNERSHIP

January 13, 2016

Des Moines Business Record  
The Depot at 4<sup>th</sup>  
100 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Des Moines, IA 50309

Forty Under 40 Selection Committee:

I am pleased to recommend Mandy McWherter for the Business Record's Forty Under 40 recognition.

Through her involvement with the Young Professionals Connection, I have seen Mandy grow as an individual and as a leader. Her active role in the Professional Development Committee earned her the Committee Member of the Year award in 2013 and a co-chair role in 2014.

Mandy joined the YPC Board as the Professional Development Chair in 2015, and her enthusiasm was recognized immediately. Through innovative events like "Refresh Your LinkedIn" and a "Resume and Mock Interview Workshop," young people throughout Greater Des Moines were able to learn real-life skills to help them succeed.

That is a common theme I see with Mandy: The desire to help others succeed. Mandy is a mentor and role model to many up-and-coming professionals, whether she realizes it or not. She listens sincerely and makes a genuine effort to offer advice and make connections.

Outside of YPC, Mandy is active as a leader in many other organizations. She works full time in marketing and also is pursuing her Master's degree at Drake University. She's been active with a political campaign ahead of Iowa's first-in-the-nation caucuses and will be participating as fellow in a leadership institute this year.

Mandy's commitment to make Des Moines into a great city for YPs to live, work and play is demonstrated through both her personal and professional lives, something I greatly admire.

My recommendation of Mandy for this prestigious community recognition is not done lightly. Mandy has gained my respect and that of her peers through hard work, leadership and a willingness to take on new challenges and responsibilities. Thank you for considering her for the next Forty Under 40 class.

Sincerely,

Emilee Richardson  
2016 Past President  
Young Professionals Connection  
Forty Under 40 Class of 2015