



Des Moines Downtown Chamber

301 Grand Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50309
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www.DTchamber.com

January 10, 2018

Dear Forty Under 40 Selection Committee:

Thank you for your consideration of many talented nominees for this year's Forty Under 40 class. It is my pleasure to write a letter of support for Belle Du Chene.

Belle has been a pleasure to watch grow in her career. From being an employee at media companies, to starting and expanding her own businesses, her entrepreneurial spirit has always shined bright.

But an area of development I've observed in the last year is her personal growth. Belle auditioned and was selected for the very distinguished Des Moines Chorale Society, and even sang a solo in her first concert! She also raised her hand for an impromptu opening on a Des Moines Marathon relay team I was involved with when one of my teammates was hospitalized. I could not believe how well Belle ran a 4-mile leg with less than 24 hours mental preparation and without weeks of a pre-race training schedule! Our team didn't miss a beat because Belle's determination to help us succeed overpowered any physical challenges she faced.

This is an exceptional candidate who learns quickly, works hard, fails occasionally but gets right back up and pushes forward. She's balanced between business, social, and personal, and a magnificent addition to any leadership group.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Chittenden

Jennifer Chittenden
Executive Director,
Des Moines Downtown Chamber of Commerce
Forty Under 40 Class of 2014