

The Ferscipe Society



January 10, 2014

Jason Swanson
Business Record
100 – 4th Ave
Des Moines, IA 50309

Dear Jason,

Emily Hamilton embodies the spirit of Des Moines, and is an excellent example of how our community has successfully retained talented, energetic and thoughtful new leaders. Her professional accomplishments, which include raising funds and developing a new model for community-educational partnerships, and her passion for making central Iowa an even more vibrant, thoughtful community are just a few of the many reasons that Emily would be an outstanding addition to the 2014 Forty Under 40 class.

Over the past 10 years, Emily has excelled professionally as a fundraiser. As Director of Development at the World Food Prize, she laid the foundation for the Hall of Laureates successful \$30 million campaign. At Drake University, she engaged alums across the country and closed many gifts to support the Distinctly Drake campaign. And now, in her role as Executive Director of the “I Have a Dream” Foundation, Emily is creating a new model for supporting at-risk kids in our community, and she’s expanding the fundraising, community engagement and outreach necessary to support this new and innovative project.

We know Emily through a leadership networking group called Ferscipe. Emily has been a thoughtful, committed member of Ferscipe since its inception in 2010. As the group has evolved into a think-tank style collective, Emily has stepped up and taken on a leadership role in the group to ensure that Ferscipe continues to be a safe haven for next generation leaders to embrace passionate, inspirational and honest conversation about our community to promote positive change.

Emily’s passion, clear to anyone that meets her even once, is education. She understands how important it is for all kids to have the support they need to be successful. One of her greatest strengths is in her ability to articulate why every one of us needs to be engaged in our community’s educational systems.

Emily is a committed leader in our community. Her thoughtful ideas, her committed engagement in our community, and her creative energy will help strengthen our community and make our collective future even brighter.

Sincerely,


Margaret Dixon
Vistage International