



January 8, 2015

Forty Under 40 Selection Committee  
Des Moines Business Record  
The Depot at 4<sup>th</sup> Street, 100 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Des Moines, IA 50309

**Re: Nomination to Forty Under 40 Class of 2015**

Dear Selection Committee:

I would like to thank you for your time and consideration of my nomination to this year's Forty Under 40 Class. It would be a great honor to join the other great leaders that have been previously selected. Attached is a personal resume that outlines my professional and community based involvement and accomplishments, however I wanted to take a moment to share the balance that I strive for in all facets of my life.

I firmly believe that my profession of architecture is very much about improving the community and the lives of those people that interact with the projects that we as architects design. Des Moines has afforded me, and many architects, the opportunity to design buildings in a collaborative manner alongside a passionate and progressive community.

As a father of 14-year old triplets, and a 5-year old, the quality of the community that we choose to live in becomes extremely important. This quality should not be determined by a few, but rather we all have a responsibility to devote our time, resources, and expertise to developing a community that we can be proud to call home.

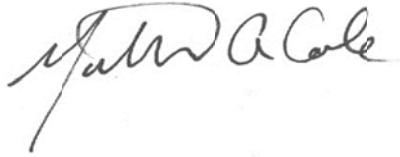
After managing a small branch office in Des Moines for a Lincoln, NE firm, I had the opportunity to join Brooks Borg Skiles, one of the oldest firms in the State of Iowa, in 2009. I was honored to join the firm's partnership in 2013 as one of the youngest partners in the 118 year history and look forward to the future opportunities to personally and professionally impact our community in a positive way.

While my time within the office and at home, are immensely important to me, I feel it is critical as a professional and a leader, to give of my time and resources within our community. Much of this time for me, has been in mentoring roles. I spent several years mentoring young men at Orchard Place as well as serving on the Foundation Board. Since 2009 I have been actively involved with mentoring high school students in the ACE Mentor Program of Central Iowa. This national mentorship program allows me the opportunity to work with students interested in pursuing careers in Architecture, Construction, or Engineering. As a mentor, team leader, and now board member I have been a part of seeing nearly 600 students, from twelve metro area schools, participate in ACE over the last 6-years.

I look forward to continuing this balance of family, work, and community involvement for years to come. Thank you again for your time and consideration of this year's Forty Under 40 class. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

BROOKS BORG SKILES ARCHITECTURE ENGINEERING LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matthew A. Cole". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Matthew" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Cole".

Matthew A. Cole, AIA, LEED AP  
Architect | Partner

Encl: Personal Resume