

June 6, 2014

Dear Friends at the Business Record and Women of Influence Sponsors:

I am proud and excited to recommend Brianne Sanchez for the inaugural Meredith Emerging Woman of Influence Award. This bright, talented and giving individual epitomizes the criteria of being successful in her field, contributing significantly in her civic and nonprofit activities, showing high integrity and ethical standards, and pursuing endeavors to advance in her career and the community.

I believe the Emerging Woman of Influence nomination I completed online and her attached resume speak volumes about Brianne's achievements, from her outstanding communications accomplishments and completion of her master of public administration degree (while working full-time) to her remarkable community contributions. The latter include creation of TEDxDesMoines, patterned after the global TEDx endeavor, and establishment of the Young Nonprofit Professionals Network Des Moines.

These and other community activities demonstrate her drive and willingness to work hard, as a volunteer, to create, plan and implement opportunities for central Iowa citizens to learn, advance professionally and connect with each other and with the community.

Amazingly, Brianne has accomplished all that she has before reaching her 30s (her 29th birthday is June 8, 2014). When you meet her, you will immediately connect with a warm, funny and totally unpretentious individual who seeks no praise for herself, but rather who seeks ways to bring people together, to learn about others and to make our community more vibrant and engaging.

(One side note that I believe is telling about Brianne: When she interviewed for her current position as Des Moines University's community relations manager, my colleagues and I complimented and marveled at her ability to juggle her career and community activities, none of which are small tasks. With some embarrassment, she admitted responding to text messages related to her volunteer endeavors while she was in labor. She downplayed that, but it shows how committed she is to the community and to the organizations she's involved with.)

Thanks to all of you for creating and supporting the Woman of Influence Awards, which are such wonderful ways to recognize and honor individuals who make real and powerful differences in our community. Thanks also for your consideration of Brianne Sanchez for the Meredith Emerging Woman of Influence Award. I fully believe it is highly possible that one day she'll also merit the title, "Woman of Influence."

Sincerely yours,

Barbara Dietrich Boose
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