Des Moines Business Record

The Depot at Fourth

100 Fourth Street

Des Moines, Iowa 50309

Re: Nomination of Kathryn Dickel, Meredith Emerging Woman of Influence

Dear Selection Team:

Being able to change and find the best successes for themselves and their team is the sign of a great leader. I am pleased to nominate Kathryn Dickel for the Meredith Emerging Woman of Influence because of her ability to retain and grow her professional standing while moving into new arena of leadership that will benefit the Central Iowa area for years to come.

I have watched with great interest and excitement as Kathyn has transitioned to a different kind of leader this year. Kathyn is already successful in her chosen field and helps others who have an interest in the industry she is leading. She has made significant contributions to the community through civic, nonprofit and philanthropic involvement for many years as illustrated on her attached resume.

But this year, she has moved to being more visible and in the forefront – providing her business savvy, high integrity and ethical standards and her ability to get things done while helping others understand the value of the projects she has chosen to support. This kind of leader is often the focus of criticism and second-guessing. Kathyn has been able to take this input and provide thoughtful and innovative answers that make projects better rather than stop them.

The projects have the benefit of her passion as well as her business acumen. She gives tirelessly and surrounds herself with others who feel her commitment and sense of urgency. I have been fortunate to be one of those people she consults with on issues and opportunities. I always walk away from our encounters impressed with the questions, thought and most importantly, finding myself wanting to be on her team, supporting the project at hand in any way I can.

Kathryn is the kind of leader I talk about with clients in my leadership consultancy. And her ability to change while holding on to the very core of what has made her successful to this point is something many leaders, especially women, are working to achieve. This kind of flexibility and re-creation will be the hallmark of tomorrow’s leaders and makes Kathryn an excellent choice as your Emerging Woman of Influence.

Regards,

Brooke Benschoter

Brooke a. Benschoter, APR, MS

Principal