

To Whom It May Concern,

It is my pleasure to recommend Katie Patterson for the 2019 Woman Business Owner of the Year award. As a prominent local business owner and founder, as well as an involved community member, she more than exemplifies the ideal for this title.

I've known Katie for several years as both friend and mentor. Throughout that time she has helped grow her company, Happy Medium, into a local leader among agencies. With smart business decisions, growth planning, and personal leadership she has taken the company from one employee to nearly 30, with clients all across the Midwest.

I believe she acts as a wonderful example of what other young women can do to become business leaders in Greater Des Moines—showing how to navigate ambition and relationship building where there have been few examples in the past.

I've also had the chance to help Katie as she has taken on an increasing role in community leadership. While I have helped guide her toward local board positions, she has taken that guidance and truly set forth on her own path. She now leads, supports, or engages with at least six different organizations, ranging from arts and culture to community development.

Because of her business and community leadership, I am more than glad to put my name behind her in this nomination.

Warm Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Christine Hensley". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Christine Hensley

Former Des Moines City Council member