



August 2008 YPIowa Newsletter

The official e-newsletter of the Young Professionals of Iowa. Our mission is simple "To help young professionals in Iowa take responsibility for the growth of their communities to ensure the long term advancement of the State of Iowa." Please visit www.ypiowa.com for the latest YP news and events throughout Iowa.

Please forward this information to anyone that might be interested. [You maybe subscribe to future issues by clicking here.](#) If you would like to unsubscribe, please reply to this message.

Inside this issue:

- [5th Annual YPIowa Conference Opens Online Registration](#)
- [Are You Connected?](#)
- [Embrace Iowa](#)
- [YPIowa Board member application for 2009-2011 terms](#)
- [Volunteer Opportunities](#)
- [Small Town Iowa](#)
- [YP Organization Spotlight: Greater Des Moines Partnership's Young Professionals Connection](#)
- [Iowa Jobs](#)
- [Young professionals sought for Rotary exchange to Taiwan](#)

5th Annual YPIowa Conference Opens Online Registration

Join young professionals, business, and community leaders from across the state for the 5th Annual Young Professionals of Iowa (YP Iowa) Conference: Focusing on the Core Identifying & Living Up to Your Potential, sponsored by the Muscatine Journal. The event will be held on **Friday, October 10, 2008** from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm at the Holiday Inn & Conference Center, Muscatine and throughout Downtown Muscatine.



At this statewide event, you will get the chance to meet and network with other young professionals and share successes, meet current leaders, and gain a sense of pride and motivation to take back to your community. Plus, the event also includes a welcome reception on Thursday evening and Networking Event and live music on Friday evening.

You don't want to miss the variety of inspiring topics and exciting new ideas that will be shared! [Early registration is now available, register today and secure your seat!](#) \$70 "early bird" registration fee (includes annual YPIowa membership) until September 19th. \$80 registration fee September 20 through October 7th. \$95 registration fee October 8-10th.

Are You Connected?

Become a YPIowa member today and receive a discount to the 2008 YPIowa Annual Conference. [Click here for more details.](#)

Also, join these networks of YPIowa members:

[Facebook](#)
[MySpace](#)
[LinkedIn](#)
[Generation Iowa](#)



Embrace Iowa

Governor Chet Culver and Iowa business leaders have established the Embrace Iowa - 2008 Iowa Disaster Fund to receive contributions from individuals, businesses and organizations to benefit Iowans who have experienced significant hardship as a result of the storms and floods of 2008.

The 2008 Iowa Disaster Fund does NOT take the place of contributions to local agencies such as community foundations,

United Way or Red Cross Chapters. Rather, the Fund encourages local contributions and also provides a vehicle for those wishing to make statewide contributions.

Contributions to the 2008 Iowa Disaster Fund will reside in the fund until they are allocated to local nonprofits or local governmental entities within communities for disbursement to those qualifying for assistance according to local criteria. A Collaborative comprised of the key leadership members who spearheaded the creation of the fund will determine the allocation of funds to local entities.

Click here to [Donate Now](#)



YPIowa Board member application for 2009-2011 terms

If you know of someone who may be interested in applying to be a YPIowa Board member, [CLICK HERE](#) for the application. These are due by October 1, 2008. If you have any questions about being on the board, feel free to e-mail any of the current board members. To find a list of the board members, [CLICK HERE](#).

Volunteer Opportunities

- **YPIowa Conference Planning committee** – each city should have at least one member of their YP group sit on this committee. You meet once a month for a short conference call to give your feedback and receive updates for you to share with your group about the Leadership Conference. Send contact information of volunteer to info@ypiowa.com.
- **YPIowa Job Ambassador Program** – Those interested in this program are invited to attend our monthly conference calls. We are in the planning stages and input would be helpful to help implement this program that will help to connect the YPs looking for jobs and the Employers looking to hire YPs. Send your contact information to info@ypiowa.com.

Small Town Iowa

Small town Iowa- Sometimes, people say that like it's a dirty word, but I find comfort in the thought. There is something about living here that I just can't describe. We have culture, festivals, and amenities galore, but when I go to the grocery store, I still run into people that I know. With "down home" values, small town people are doing big things.

I can't share how wonderful Iowa is without telling you some personal things about myself. My dad was killed in May. It was a car accident. He was 60, and I was devastated. I have worked in healthcare for the last 11 years and have seen a lot of people pass away. I am generally the strong one and the one who was supposed to hold my family together.

But sometimes inner strength is tapped and there just isn't enough. In the lowest of low moments, that's when you can see the impact you make on others. Those people who you volunteer beside, who you work for causes and on committees with are the ones who are there for you when you need them most. Those people were my inner strength when I just didn't have any left. They were the ones who picked up the slack when I was unable to attend a meeting or finish a project. These fine people—from all aspects of our community—came to my rescue with time, support, and friendship.

I have made so many wonderful friends through my leadership opportunities. At 27, I never would have thought that I could have that kind of impact on others or on my community. These opportunities are abundant in Iowa. There are leadership opportunities as a young professional in Iowa that I wouldn't have in bigger or busier parts of the country.

Iowa is a great place to live in good times and bad. Those hard times are what make the good ones shine even brighter. I am so proud to have such dedicated friends and to be part of a truly great small town.

Becky Perkovich currently serves as Vice President of Marketing and Communications for the Iowa Junior Chamber. As a Jaycee, she has held many local offices taking leadership roles in her community. Becky is employed by Mainstream Living, in Ames and enjoys working in healthcare. She is also active within other organizations including: Community and Family Resources, Iowa for Health Care, Make-A-Wish and Rock the Vote. In her free time, Becky loves to travel, attend concerts and capture memories through scrap-booking. As an Iowa native, she believes that there are fabulous opportunities for socially responsible leadership. "Iowa is a place where young professionals come together to make an impact."



YP Organization Spotlight: Greater Des Moines Partnership's Young Professionals Connection

The [Young Professionals Connection \(YPC\)](#) gives future leaders an opportunity to get in touch with the business community of Des Moines, Iowa. Currently several programs run by the Connection's various committees are contributing to the surrounding community.



Des Moines was showcased before thousands of music fans this summer, at the 80/35 music festival on July 4th and 5th. YPC presented the *Do More Village* at the festival, which highlighted groups that enhance the lives of Young Professionals and emphasize the city as a forward thinking city where young professionals succeed.

May 2 - 9, YPC members helped run a week long Spring Cleaning Drive for AIB College of Business. Students have the opportunity to purchase professional attire at an affordable price through AIB's Clothes Closet. Members of YPC volunteered during collection times to gather the donations.

Through a sponsorship with Children and Families of Iowa, the YPC Impact Downtown Committee adopted an apartment for a complete home makeover. YPC members helped unload the moving truck of more than 30 items collected from more than 20 donors. The makeover was completed on April 26th after YPC's involvement in the event was recognized on April 24th along with other contributing organizations.

The Non-Profit Board Forum was held for YPC members on June 19th at inPlay in downtown Des Moines. The forum was a chance for those interested to become more involved with committees or organizations and bring their perspective to those that may be slightly outside the YPC mold.

Iowa Jobs

In today's global marketplace employers and job seekers are on a continuous mission to secure a fruitful employer-employee relationship that will prove to be advantageous for both parties. While there are other sites that may provide a connection point for this to occur – IowaJobs.org is a premiere site geared specifically to bridging that connection for those seeking opportunities in Iowa.



IowaJobs.org is operated by Iowa Workforce Development (IWD) and is designed to ensure that Iowa's employment opportunities have the most exposure possible and it is intended to be a piece of Iowa's overall marketing effort to attract new Iowans to the state and retain a skilled workforce.

IowaJobs.org is a comprehensive site where employers can post all of their available job opportunities, and a one-stop-shop for jobseekers to connect with Iowa's employment prospects. This website allows individuals both in and out of Iowa to find the most complete listing of high-quality jobs in the state and it functions as a step toward meeting the 150,000 jobs surplus that Iowa is projected to experience in the next 7 years.

Each business day there are thousands of careers opportunities posted to this site and IowaJobs.org provides people 24-7 access to IWD's statewide system. Uniquely, IowaJobs.org job postings are directly uploaded to JobCentral.com supplying national exposure to Iowa's job market and for professional positions with an annual salary of \$30,000+ IWD has partnered with Iowa's Department of Economic Development to provide additional exposure through IDED's SmartCareerMove.com career site.

Individuals seeking opportunities through IowaJobs.org can search openings based on their individual qualifications, geographic area, wage, or a variety of other advanced search criteria. People can view the electronic job orders, referral information and/or create an electronic Personal Resume that is searchable by employers who utilize IowaJobs.org – all with a few simple steps.

In addition, IWD works with employers to fuel their workforce needs by offering a wealth of business service options – particularly a no-cost recruitment tool that will produce the most qualified candidates from our iowajobs.org database. Currently, there are nearly 25,000 individuals registered as active in IowaJobs.org statewide system. A "job order" in IowaJobs initiates the employment exchange process to facilitate an automated job match between an employer and a qualified applicant. Employers can request that IWD manage their job orders or they have the option to manage their own, provided they comply with IWD job order policies. For employer and jobseeker protection – IWD has outlined legal and ethical standards as part of the recruiting system and requires strict adherence to ensure the integrity and quality is maintained.

Recently a new feature of the website includes job scraping technology, which allows IWD to pull jobs automatically from employers' websites and place them directly on IowaJobs.org. This new technology has dramatically increased the number of jobs on the website, and will ensure that when a job seeker logs on to IowaJobs.org, they are seeing the most up-to-date list of high-quality jobs in the state.

Written by Renee Miller, Iowa Workforce Development Region 12 Manager

Young professionals sought for Rotary exchange to Taiwan

Iowa Rotarians are seeking four young professionals ages 25-40 to be part of a Group Study Exchange (GSE) team to Taiwan from March 1 to 29.

GSE sends and receives teams of four non-Rotarians, plus a Rotarian team leader, to partnered Rotary districts. Team members share personal knowledge of their country and experience the customs, vocations and lifestyles of another.

Participants must be employed full-time in a recognized business or profession, and live or be employed in Rotary District 6000, which comprises most of the southern Iowa south of Highway 30, including Ames, Marshalltown and Iowa City (but not Cedar Rapids).

The Rotary International Foundation provides a round-trip air ticket, and local Rotarians in the host

communities in the respective districts provide meals, lodging and group travel there. Team members pay for personal and incidental expenses.

Applications are available from a local Rotary Club president or Andy Knebel at (319) 530-7930; e-mail: andyknebel@hotmail.com; or the Rotary web page: www.rotary6000.org. Completed applications must be endorsed by the sponsoring clubs and submitted to the selection committee by Oct. 2. All applicants must be available for an interview on the weekend of Oct. 11 to qualify.

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