

MEET OUR MEMBERS



KAYLA VANDEHAAR

JOB: Tax and treasury manager with Lauridsen Group Inc. in Ankeny

HOMETOWN: Pleasant Hill

ALMA MATER: Iowa State University

COMMUNITY & SOCIETY ACTIVITIES: LEAP Committee member, Bondurant-Farrar School District Board Member, Bondurant-Farrar Education Foundation Treasurer, Bondurant Christian Church Preschool Treasurer

Kayla and her husband, Matt, live in Altoona with their children Brady, Peyton and Brett.

My inspiration to become a CPA comes from:

My high school accounting teacher. While in college, I learned that many people in key management positions had their CPA, even though their titles may not be accounting specific. It was a way to differentiate myself from others and help propel my career forward. I've had several unique opportunities that would not have happened or even been an option without being a CPA.

My favorite thing about my job? The people I work with! I'm blessed to work with incredibly talented and driven people who care about one another.

I am passionate about: Helping others! Whether that's solving problems and brainstorming ideas together or really digging into the work to get something accomplished.

Message for high school and college students considering a career as a CPA: The options are endless. There are many opportunities to learn and grow as a CPA and they're not just sitting behind a desk. Building relationships is key. You never know when you'll meet a future co-worker, boss or even client. Be genuine and authentic. I

think in any business, showing that you care about people can take you further.

Some of my philosophies and principles toward work and life: My faith is important to me and drives all my decisions!

Mentors who have helped me: A wise person once told me that everyone should have a personal board of directors - these are the people who will be your biggest cheerleaders but also the people who can help you get back on track. I'm thankful to have a solid group of people in my corner.

When I have free time, I prefer to: Be outside, read, and walk.

Last book I read: "House of Earth and Blood" (Crescent City), by Sarah J. Maas.

Favorite TV show: I could watch "The Office" reruns forever.

Place I'd love to live: We live on a small acreage on my husband's family farm. There is no place I'd rather be!

First job as a teen: Pizza Ranch

What I wanted to be when I grew up: A veterinarian

I never leave home without: A water bottle

TV show I'm currently obsessed with: Survivor

Favorite food: Pizza

Favorite podcast: The Lazy Genius

Favorite vacation: Any time spent at the lake

Favorite mantra: You can do hard things

Favorite music genre: Country

Go-to karaoke song: Any NSYNC song

First guest if I hosted a talk show: Patrick Mahomes