

YOUNG PROFESSIONAL SPOTLIGHT



CAITLYN BOYD

JOB: Senior investment accountant with Athene in West Des Moines

ALMA MATER: University of Northern Iowa

HOMETOWN: Webster City

My name is Caitlyn Boyd, I use all pronouns, and I am a CPA living and working in Des Moines.

What can we find you doing when you're not at work? When I'm not at work I am probably playing some sort of sport through the Pride Sports League or volunteering with my church, Downtown Disciples.

What's one thing you can't make it through the day without? I absolutely can't make it through the day without snuggles from my fur babies and extending my Duolingo streak!

Where do you see yourself in 10 years? Ten years from now, I will be making an impact in the nonprofit sector helping organizations obtain and stay compliant with their tax-exempt status while achieving their goals and missions!

Who inspires you the most? I am really inspired and motivated by several folks but a few local leaders that come to mind include Melanie Stall, a CPA working with new and young nonprofit organizations in Iowa to get their bookkeeping set up, helping them apply for tax exempt status, and assisting them with the required annual information returns to stay in compliance. Breanna Young, an attorney and a fierce advocate for LGBTQ+ individuals, that has helped new nonprofits get their organizational files in order and filed so that they can qualify for tax exempt status. Max Mowitz, a lifelong advocate for the LGBTQ+ community and the liberation of all marginalized peoples, inspires me with their work in activism, mutual aid, and compassion for all.

What is your proudest professional accomplishment? The professional accomplishment I am the proudest of is the work I get to do with the Iowa Trans Mutual Aid Fund (ITMAF). ITMAF provides small grants to Iowans seeking gender-affirming care throughout the state.

What ways have you been involved in ISCPA and how have they benefited you? I have participated in the Iowa CPAs Month of Service, Emerging Leaders Conference, Courage on the Court, LEAP lunch and learns and the Insurance Industry Conference to name a few! These incredible events have helped me expand my network, stay up to date with industry developments, and provided opportunities to learn about and practice different styles of leadership!

What made you want to become a CPA? I wanted to become a CPA because it seemed like a career that had optionality and security. A CPA could work in the automotive industry, financial services, healthcare, nonprofit, and education to name a few. While technology will evolve and change what the day-to-day would look like, I believe CPAs will still be needed to analyze, advise, and interact with the technology and interpret those things for their clients and stakeholders.

What's your best piece of advice for a college student thinking about becoming a CPA? Explore ALL the options that interest you and find work that makes you feel inspired!

TV series I'm currently obsessed with: Traitors! I also enjoy watching Unrivaled, a women's professional three-on-three basketball league.

My favorite artists right now: 76th Street, Forrest Frank, and Chappell Roan.

My first job: Was as a checker at K-Mart in Webster City

Favorite line from a TV show: "Okay, I don't know how to fold broken cheese like that!" - David Schitt, Schitt's Creek