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SBA Names Ohio Small Business Person of the Year

COLUMBUS, OH - Michelle Therese Kerr, President & Chairperson of **Oxford Consulting Group** has been named the Ohio and Region V Small Business Person of the Year by the U.S. Small Business Administration.

The Small Business Person of the year is selected annually based on growth in sales or unit volume, increase in the number of employees, financial strength, innovativeness of product or service and evidence of contributions to community-oriented projects. Mary McCarthy, President & Co-founder, Your Management Team nominated Kerr for this award.

Oxford Consulting Group (<http://www.oxford-consulting.com>) is a leading IT services and solutions provider that has developed, implemented and supported the technology portfolios of hundreds of companies across North America and the United Kingdom. Established in 1998 and headquartered in Westerville, Ohio, Oxford Consulting Group has a team of nearly 300 talented, dedicated, creative and customer focused business and technology professionals. The company's range of solutions include delivering business-to-business integration and supply chain management solutions for global organizations, fulfilling the IT staffing needs of large enterprises, and providing IT services and support for small to medium-sized businesses. Oxford Consulting Group is an IBM Premier Business Partner and Microsoft Cloud Accelerate partner.

Michelle Therese Kerr is a person dedicated to success. Her passionate and positive attitude makes her a role model for success. She co-founded Oxford Consulting Group in her early twenties, and under her leadership, Oxford Consulting Group has achieved a three-year growth rate of 100 percent and has expanded to multiple offices in the United States and United Kingdom. In addition she has launched a technology training program to help provide much sought-after skills for enterprises, while helping to bring new jobs and economic development.

Michelle is both a pillar of the community, and a demonstrated innovative leader in her industry. She has been involved in numerous community organizations—both locally and on a national scale—and has helped multiple non-profit organizations thrive and improve more lives through their causes. Michelle is a long-standing benefactor of local and national charities including Amethyst, Inc., A Kid Again, Children's Hunger Alliance, The American Heart Association, and the YWCA Family Center. In addition, she donates at least 5% of the company's profits to organizations in support of disadvantaged women, youth and veterans.

Michelle is currently serving a three-year term on the Columbus Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, and is a member of the Women's presidents Organization, Women for Economic Leadership Development (WELD) and National Association for Women in Business (NAWBO). In 2013, she was honored with the Enterprising Woman of the Year award from *Enterprising Women* magazine.

Michelle is among 50 top small business persons – one from each state, plus the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico/Virgin Islands, and Guam - who will be honored at SBA's National Small Business Week events May 15–16, 2014 in Washington, D.C. As the winner of the Ohio Small Business Person of the Year Award, Michelle is competing to be named at the National Small Business Person of the Year during the national event

Region V covers the following states: Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and Ohio.

Kerr will be honored at Celebrating Success in Small Business Awards honoring our Small Business Winners on May 29th at the Pinnacle Golf Club, Grove City, OH. For more information please contact Shannon Feucht at Shannon.Feucht@sba.gov .

SBA would also like to give special thanks to the following sponsors: Business Development Finance Corporation, Fifth Third Bank, First Federal Bank, Heartland Bank, Huntington National Bank, KeyBank, Telhio Credit Union and U.S. Bank.

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