**DOWNTOWN YMCA LEADERSHIP TEAM**

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR- BRANDON BRUGGER**
Brandon holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Exercise Science from the University of Nebraska Omaha, and a Master’s Degree in Exercise Science from Western Kentucky University. While completing his Master’s Degree he worked as a Graduate Assistant Strength Coach, helping with football, soccer, baseball, & basketball teams. In June 2012, Brandon started his career with the YMCA as a Fitness Director in Wichita, KS at the Andover Branch. After four years with the YMCA in Wichita, Brandon took a position as Senior Program Director with the YMCA of Greater Fort Wayne. During that time he oversaw the Wellness & Membership departments! Brandon is glad to be back in his hometown and is looking forward to working with the members and community.

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**SENIOR PROGRAM DIRECTOR-SAMANTHA CHLOUPEK**
Samantha holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Education and Human Sciences and a Master’s Degree in Human and Family Services Public Administration through the University of Nebraska Lincoln. In May 2010, Samantha started her Y career as a Summer Day Camp Counselor at the Sarpy Community YMCA. Samantha joined the Downtown Family YMCA in August of 2013 as the Aquatics, Youth, and Family Director. Samantha has been the Membership Director over the past 2 years and is excited for the opportunity to be able to continue to support members and families! Samantha is certified in Lifeguard, CPR, AED and First Aid. She is excited to provide support and stability for our members and program participants.

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**HEALTH AND WELLNESS DIRECTOR- JOHN WHITMYRE**
John holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Community Health Education and a Master’s Degree in Health Education from the University of Nebraska at Omaha. John has been in the fitness industry since 2010. During this time he has held positions such as personal trainer, fitness manager, and district fitness manager. He holds two National Personal Training Certifications (NCSF and NCCPT) and the following specialties: NESTA Sports Injury Specialist, NESTA Lifestyle & Weight Management Specialist, and Spencer Institute Certified Personal Fitness Chef. In this new role John will continue to help others reach their potential through health & wellness.

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**YOUTH & FAMILY DIRECTOR – CHRISTIAN SCHWAB**
Christian holds a Bachelor's Degree in Youth Ministry/Theology from the University of Sioux Falls in South Dakota with a minor in Entrepreneurial Studies. In October of 2015, Christian started his Y career as a Program Assistant for an After School Program in Sioux Falls, SD. In 2016, he was promoted to Program Lead. In the summer of 2016 before Christian was promoted, he had the privilege of serving as a lead intern for a Summer Academy in Denver, CO serving underprivileged youth. Christian is excited to engage with the diverse population at the Downtown YMCA and to meet the needs of the youth and their families.

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Kayleigh received her Bachelor’s Degree in Studio Art with a Minor in psychology from the University of Nebraska at Omaha. She started her career with the YMCA as a volunteer at YMCA Camp Kitaki. She later became a lifeguard at the same camp and would work the summers there and the school year at the various YMCA branches in Omaha. In 2018 she started as the Aquatics Director at the Southwest YMCA in Omaha. She is excited to be at the Downtown YMCA and in a community closer to the one she calls home!

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EARLY LEARNING CENTER DIRECTOR – MARCY WILFONG
Marcy holds a Bachelor’s Degree in Inclusive Early Childhood Education from the University of Nebraska Lincoln and a Masters of Education degree in Curriculum and Instruction with an emphasis in the Inclusive Classroom from Concordia University. She spent the last nine years teaching both special education preschool and in a regular preschool classroom. Marcy grew up in Omaha and is excited to be able to start her YMCA career at the Downtown ELC. She is looking forward to meeting the needs of the ELC families.

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GROUP EXERCISE MANAGER – MICHELLE HANNAH
Michelle holds a Bachelor’s Degree in International Studies from Southern Methodist University in Dallas, TX, a Master’s Degree in Business Administration from Tarleton State University and a Master’s Degree in Strategic Studies from the US Army War College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. Michelle spent most of her career in the Army; teaching group fitness classes was simply a way to give back to her army community. In summer 2018, she decided to make group fitness more than just a hobby, and started teaching at the Sarpy YMCA. Michelle holds the ACE Group Fitness Certification as well as the following specialty certifications: Indoor Cycling, Body Pump, Yoga, Pilates, Barre and Silver Sneakers. She is looking forward to making the Downtown YMCA the premier location for group fitness classes in Omaha.

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