

BRING YOUR DREAMS.



**Tim Reed, Mayor**

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### **SCOTT MEYER RECEIVES THE FIRST MAYOR'S GENERATIONAL LEADERSHIP AWARD**

2001 Brookings High School graduate Scott Meyer will be awarded the first Mayor's Generational Leadership Award. Mayor Tim Reed created the award to recognize the importance of young leaders who make a community vibrant and dynamic. "Many times good ideas come from coffee conversations, and this one was developed over a cup of coffee with Deputy Mayor Keith Corbett." said Mayor Reed. Keith Corbett commented that the city should recognize great young leaders like Scott Meyer. The physical award shows the creativity of the community and was created by local artist Heath "Tad" Bradley.

Scott graduated from Brookings High School in 2001, studied at Luther College in Decorah, Iowa and graduated in 2005. He was then awarded a Rotary Ambassadorial Scholarship that took him to Northern Norway. He lived and studied there, obtaining a master's degree in Peace Studies. He taught at the University of Tromsø, Norway for two years before returning to South Dakota to start 9 Clouds with his brother John.

A frequent speaker and teacher, Scott has taught and worked around the world helping businesses and organizations of all sizes find effective digital solutions for their specific markets, from local hamburger shops in South Dakota to the European Union. He has been awarded The South Dakota Spirit of Entrepreneurship, the Young Entrepreneur of the Year in South Dakota. Prairie Business Magazine recognized him in their 2014 December issue as one of the top 40 business leaders under 40 years old. 9 Clouds and a second company started by the Meyer brothers Lemonly, now have annual revenue of \$2.75 million.

Reed commented, "I first met Scott when trying to understand social media and how it could help the city communicate with its citizens." The City of Brookings hired 9 Clouds to consult with City Departments on the use of social media. "Scott helped me understand how social media could help the city communicate and include younger members in the governing process."

Scott calls Brookings the creative capital of the South Dakota. He writes and hosts the Digital Homesteading blog and podcasts focusing on growing rural businesses and communities. He also founded TEDxBrookings, Creativity Week and 1 Million Cups in Brookings.

The award will be presented to Scott on Thursday, December 18, 2014 at the Brookings Holiday Celebration from 5:00 – 7:00 pm at the Swiftel Center. The event is open to the public.

The Mayor's Generational Leadership Award is given to a community member 35 years old or younger who has affected the community in the following ways:

- Positively changes how we think about our community and city
- Helps Brookings attract and retain young professionals and families
- Motivates new generations to be active in their communities
- Contributes to the advancement and wellbeing of the community through service in areas such as: education, sports, fund-raising, charitable and voluntary service, economic development, arts, and the environment.