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April 17, 2020

Michigan Association of Broadcasters 820 N. Capitol Avenue Lansing, MI 48906

To whom it may concern,

I am thrilled to have this opportunity to nominate my former colleague and friend Cynthia Canty for the P

Public Media Impact Award.

I met Cyndy in August of 2012 as we began to create what is now Stateside, Michigan's daily statewide public radio news magazine.

Cyndy's energy and enthusiasm for public broadcasting was palpable. Although she already had a storied career in commercial broadcasting in Michigan, her passion for public media had been in the making for some thirty years as an almost life-long fan. In fact, she listened to both of NPR's flagship programs Morning Edition and All Things Considered on her way to and from her jobs in commercial broadcasting.

When Stateside premiered on September 6th, 2012, it had a small team: just Cyndy, myself, and an assistant guest booker. Under Cyndy's guidance, Stateside grew into a powerhouse – broadcasting interviews with governors, senators, authors and musicians.

Her love for live radio and the intimacy of broadcasting drove Cyndy daily. In her time as host of Stateside, she conducted thousands of interviews with hundreds and hundreds of guests. It is not hyperbole to say that Cyndy has contributed to a better, more informed state.

Cyndy has an innate ability to connect with whomever she's talking, whether an academic, a policy wonk, a poet, a sports reporter or a mental health worker. I've never once seen Cyndy skim a book: if she's going to speak with an author, she made sure she read every single page. It is that kind of respect and professional – along with her work ethic, sincerity, and trust in her team that turned Stateside into the institution that it is today.

I am honored that Cyndy spent the final seven years of her incredible 40-year career with us at Michigan Radio. Now, she is devoted to her family - including her three wonderful grandchildren - and continues to be one of the most generous people I know. She even still sends the Stateside team interview ideas.

Sincerely,

Zoe Clark

Program Director, Michigan Radio