



News Release

Congrove Recognized for Leadership, Columbus Smart 50 Award Honoree

Columbus, OH, June 20, 2022: GBQ is pleased to announce that Managing Director [Darci Congrove](#) has been selected as a 2022 Columbus Smart 50 Award honoree.

Presented by *Smart Business* magazine, the [Smart 50 Awards](#) recognize the top executives of the 50 smartest companies in the region for their ability to effectively build and lead savvy organizations. Honorees will be recognized at a special celebration on July 20th, where three organizations will receive specialty awards for their achievements in the categories of innovation, impact and sustainability.

Darci Congrove joined GBQ in 1998 and was promoted to Partner in 2003. In 2010, she was elected Managing Director. While Darci's previous experience included working within the tax practices of two regional firms, her client base has been focused on partnerships and LLCs for most of her career. As a result of Darci's ongoing leadership and guidance, GBQ has been [named](#) an INSIDE Public Accounting Best of the Best Firm and ranked among its Top 200 list, America's Best Tax Firm and America's Best Accounting Firm as determined by *Forbes*, an *Accounting Today* Regional Leader and Firm to Watch, and a *Columbus Business First* Best Places to Work award recipient for 15 consecutive years. Additionally, GBQ has been recognized for its commitment to community and has received workplace satisfaction awards in both Cincinnati and Toledo upon entering the markets.

A dynamic leader and advocate, Darci continues to empower growth of the community through her involvement with countless organizations and nonprofits. Notable positions include Board Chair of the Columbus Chamber of Commerce; Treasurer, Board Member and former Board President of The German Village Society; Professional Council Member of The Columbus Foundation; Strategy Committee Chair and former Board President of the Columbus-Franklin County Finance Authority; Board Member of the Columbus College of Art & Design; and former Board Chair of the Women's Fund of Central Ohio. Darci has supported dozens of other community and civic organizations, including serving on the boards and/or committees of the United Way of Central Ohio, Dress for Success, Matriots, Women's Small Business Accelerator, Somali Community Center, Boys & Girls Clubs of Columbus, and Create Columbus Commission, among others.

Darci has been the recipient of several accolades, including: 2020 *Columbus Business First* C-Suite Awards – CEO of the Year Runner-Up; 2019 YWCA Woman of Achievement; 2018 *Columbus CEO Magazine* CEO of the Year Finalist; 2015 and 2017 *Smart Business* Progressive Woman Award; 2016 *Smart Business* Smart 50 Award; 2015 German Village Society Frank Fetch Award; 2015 *Columbus Business First* Influential Women to Know; 2010 Women for Economic Leadership & Development - 12 Women You Should Know; 2009 United Way of Central Ohio

Robert S. Crane Young Philanthropist Award; Leadership Columbus Class of 2003; 2002 Family Business Center of Central Ohio Outstanding Service Award; and 2002 *Columbus Business First 40 Under 40*.

In addition to her continued involvement throughout the community, Darci frequently speaks on topics of tax, wealth planning, and business management matters.

About GBQ

At GBQ, our purpose is clear: we [empower growth](#); growth of our people, our communities and our clients' businesses. A top tax, accounting and consulting firm for 69 years, we're driven by the outcomes that we know can change the lives of those we work with and for. We've learned that *this* is what matters most to our stakeholders. It is this purpose that drives and inspires us every day. It's why we exist.

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