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## **Kathy Peterson Introduction**

At the age of five, Kathy Peterson was an aspiring speaker. Her first audience—dolls and stuffed animals. Her first podium—a piano bench. Today, Kathy holds the Certified Speaking Professional designation, placing her in the top 15% of speakers worldwide.

Kathy founded PeopleWorks, a speaking, training, and human resource consulting business in 1998. Prior to starting PeopleWorks, she was a member of the global human resources department at a large Fortune 500 technology company as a management development specialist. (Hint... The company had cow spotted boxes!)

Although Kathy has enjoyed much success over the years, she has been fired from one job. She's no longer allowed in the driver's seat of her husband's tractor! But, Kathy has learned about hard work and running a family business since she and her husband are the 5th generation to live and work on the Peterson Family Farm outside of Storm Lake, Iowa.

In her spare time, Kathy is an avid supporter of her alma matter, Iowa State University (GO CYCLONES!). She was elected and is a past chair of the ISU Alumni Association Board of Directors, representing more than 280,000 fellow Cyclones. Kathy also holds a Master's degree in Leadership & Talent Development from Drake University.

Kathy's greatest claims to fame are:

having 4 kids who aren't currently in jail,

AND

being voted the "Best Smelling Mom" when her son was in first grade.

Please join me in giving a warm welcome to Kathy Peterson, President of PeopleWorks.