

Natalie Wilson – Candidate – President Elect-Elect

Biography

Natalie Wilson is currently an upper elementary counselor at Gilbert Intermediate School. Natalie began her role with ISCA two years ago upon graduating from Buena Vista University and gaining her first position in the school counseling field. She was first introduced to ISCA while in graduate school where she volunteered on the Awards & Recognition Committee. Prior to coming to education, she worked in the journalism and communication field for 12 years. Her time as treasurer on the ISCA board has been rewarding to learn from other counselors who have invaluable experience that has made the profession what it is today. This opportunity allows her to give back and continue to grow a profession she cares about deeply. She is passionate about advocating for her students, building on her leadership skills, and helping other counselors grow professionally. She has presented at the state's annual conference and is a member of ASCA.

Candidate Statement

As Treasurer, I am fortunate to learn and work beside some amazing leaders including current President Aimee Hospodarsky, current President-Elect Sheryl Cline, and current President Elect-Elect Cory Graven. All of these leaders inspire me. One reason I am applying for this position is the hope that I can inspire other counselors to advocate, lead our profession in Iowa, and see the benefits when they get out of their comfort zone and get involved. Other reasons why I am running for this position include the following: networking and learning from talented counselors across the state; having the opportunity to attend ASCA and LDI to bring learning back to Iowa; thus, ensuring we are providing high-quality professional development to our members; and lastly, for professional growth.

My background before I came into education was in journalism and mass communication. I would like to use my skills in digital, verbal, and print modes of communication to expand on the work we are already doing with identifying strategic partners and having a professional presence as an organization, continue to share our success stories and advocacy efforts in the news media/social media, and expand our resources on the ISCA website so that we can equip membership with tools they need to confidently build a comprehensive school counseling program based on data-driven decisions.