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**Northern Biomolecular Services is Honored as a 2021 Michigan Celebrates Awardee!**

April 5th, Kalamazoo, MI – Northern Biomolecular Services is being celebrated as one of the 2021 awardees for the Michigan 50 Companies to Watch award, presented by Michigan Celebrates Small Business. Northern Biomolecular Services will be honored at an awards ceremony during the 17th annual Michigan Celebrates Small Business gala event, July 20.

NBS specializes in advanced molecular biological techniques for the determination of biodistribution, persistence, and gene expression of cell and gene therapy products.

“Affirmation that blood + sweat + tears can add up to something great.  I am humbled and honored by this award, it was only made possible by the dedication and hard work of the people of NBS.”

 Shane Woods, President

The Michigan 50 Companies to Watch are known for making a substantial economic impact and have proven that with this year's nominations totaling 559. This year has challenged businesses due to COVID-19, but many have proven to be valiant and continue to impact Michigan’s economy despite the obstacles they have faced. Out of the applicants for this year's gala each demonstrated innovation and growth, helping their small business create change in communities around Michigan.

“Small businesses create significant economic impact in communities all across Michigan, said Josh Hundt, Chief Business Development Officer and Executive Vice President at the Michigan Economic Development Corporation. “We are excited to acknowledge and celebrate more than 80 small businesses this year who have been selected by their peers, communities and small business support organizations and demonstrate the resiliency and impact of Michigan small businesses.”

Companies nominated for the Michigan 50 Companies to Watch award must be second-stage companies, defined as having six to 99 full-time-equivalent employees and generating $750,000 to $50 million in annual revenue or working capital from investors or grants. Additionally, the companies must be privately held and headquartered in Michigan.

Each nominee is evaluated based off of intent and capacity to grow such as:

* Employee or sales growth
* Exceptional entrepreneurial leadership
* Sustainable competitive advantage
* Other notable factors that showcase the company's success

Michigan Celebrates Small Business hopes to celebrate small business success in-person at the Breslin Center in East Lansing on July 20. At this time MCSB is planning for a hybrid approach to the celebration, offering a virtual and in-person experience. If an in-person gala is permitted, MCSB will comply with CDC, state and Michigan State University guidelines.

**About Michigan Celebrates Small Businesses**

Michigan Celebrates Small Businesses is a non-profit (501c3) organization that is composed of statewide founding organizations that provide small businesses with resources to help their company grow. MCSB has Since 2005, their awards gala has celebrated and honored the impact small businesses have on our communities and state. MCSB makes small businesses their priority and will continue to support, connect, and celebrate small businesses in Michigan.

Michigan Celebrates Small Business is a partnership of the Michigan Economic Development Corporation, Edward Lowe Foundation, Small Business Association of Michigan, U.S. Small Business Administration, Michigan Business Network and the Michigan Small Business Development Center.

Kinexus Group is the Managing Partner of 2021 Michigan Celebrates Small Business gala.

Information about Michigan Celebrates Small Business can be found at [www.MichiganCelebrates.org](http://www.michigancelebrates.org/)

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