

COLUMBUS BUSINESS FIRST

40
UNDER **40**

Brooke Cartus 33

Senior facilitator and director of business
development | ImprovEdge



Twitter Handle: @brookecartus | **Instagram Handle:** @not_gay_as_in_happy | **Hometown:** Buffalo

NOMINATOR'S COMMENTS: *Wrapping attorney, opera singer, comedian and activist effectively into one person seems improbable – until you meet Brooke Cartus. She's all these and one of the kindest human beings you'll ever encounter. In the five years I've known her, I'm continually impressed by her positivity in any situation as an advocate for herself and others. She stands up for what she believes in, and protects those who can't speak, with grace, eloquence, humor and passion. And, as a leader in my ensemble at ImprovEdge, Brooke is a highly talented (and oft requested) training facilitator and keynote speaker, in addition to being director of business development. ... I'm thrilled to call her a colleague and friend and can't wait to see the heights she'll reach – personally and professionally.*

– **KAREN HOUGH**, founder & CEO, ImprovEdge

Q&A

What is the worst career choice you've made, and what did you learn from it? I've had so many careers already – opera singer, personal trainer, attorney. I think the worst choice I made was thinking I had to choose! My role at ImprovEdge allows me to flex all my muscles.

If you could go back 10 years and send yourself an anonymous text, what would it say? You got this.

When you walk into a room, what 'intro song' should start playing? Anything by Janelle Monae or Lizzo, but if I had to choose one song, *Make Me Feel* by Janelle Monae.