



Bio: Kristen Anderson Co-Founder of <u>Drake's Organic Spirits</u>



Kristen Anderson is the Co-Founder of Drake's Organic Spirits, the first and only American spirit producer to hold certifications from the 5 most legitimate bodies: USDA Organic, Non-GMO Project Verified, OU Kosher, vegan per Vegan.org and gluten-free per Gluten-Free Organization.

Kristen was born and raised in North Dakota. After attending high school in Montana, Kristen relocated back to North Dakota where she attended the University of Minnesota at Crookston and graduated with an Associate of Applied Science degree in Medical Technology. Before launching Drake's Organic Spirits, she was responsible for negotiating

the hotel contracts for Southwest employees across the country. For Drake's, Kristen particularly works on formulation, design, packaging, and marketing.

Drake's products are based on organic sugar cane, a grass which produces 8 crops before requiring re-planting, which leads to less soil erosion and chemical use compared to GMO corn. Their products include spirits, mixers, SpikedIce® Pops, and BOXTAILs®, ready-to-serve cocktails in a box. In addition to providing sustainable and organic products to consumers, Drake's is a leading bulk supplier of sustainable, organic cane alcohol to other producers and manufacturing companies that want to make the switch to organic and sustainable ingredients

Drake's Organic Spirits set out to create a spirit brand that is "Better for you, better for the planet," and is now the largest capacity organic alcohol company in the United States. In 2022, Drake's was named to Inc. 5000 list of America's Fastest Growing Privately held Companies, ranking as the 8th largest appointee in Minnesota, and the 13th largest in Food & Beverage. In addition, Drake's Organic Spirits won a Growth Brands Award (press release here) and a Gold Medal in the 2022 San Francisco World Spirits Competition. Kristen resides in Minnesota with her family where they also run Long Lake Animal Rescue, giving large and small animals a second chance.

