

# DARE MIGHTY THINGS

Theodore Roosevelt

26th President of the U.S. and  
winner of 1906 Nobel Peace Prize

“It is not the critic who counts; nor the one who points out how the strong person stumbled, or where the doer of a deed could have done better. The credit belongs to the person who is actually in the arena; whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood who strives valiantly; who errs and comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; who does actually strive to do deeds; who knows the great enthusiasms, the great devotion, spends oneself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement; and who at worst, if he or she fails, at least fails while daring greatly...”<sup>1</sup>

“Far better it is to dare mighty things, to win glorious triumphs even though checkered by failure, than to rank with those poor spirits who neither enjoy nor suffer much because they live in the gray twilight that knows neither victory nor defeat.”<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> “The Man in the Arena: Citizenship in a Republic”  
Address delivered at the Sorbonne, Paris, April 23, 1910

<sup>2</sup> “The Strenuous Life”  
Hamilton Club, Chicago – April 10, 1899