Successful Entrepreneur and World-Class Business Leader Kathy Ireland to Deliver New England Tech Commencement Address

This year’s commencement address will be delivered by world-class entrepreneur Kathy Ireland who is Chair, CEO and Chief Designer of Kathy Ireland Worldwide®. Ireland is one of the most influential and successful people in design and marketing, and is also a powerful advocate for women and children in need. A former supermodel who combined her fashion know-how, compassion for others, and common sense ideas to build a billion dollar brand, Ireland markets more than 15,000 products with designs in fashion, weddings, home, office and most recently earth-friendly pet products. On Sunday, May 4, 2014, Kathy Ireland will share her insight about success with New England Institute of Technology graduates and their families and friends. The college’s 73rd commencement ceremony will be held at the Rhode Island Convention Center in Providence beginning at 11 a.m.

“I’m so excited for the students at NEIT, and for what they are learning and what this school is all about,” said Ireland. “The ability they have to truly make a global difference so instantly is really powerful. I’m inspired by this generation and what they are going to do.”

Ireland got her start modeling and is best known for appearing in 13 consecutive Sports Illustrated swimsuit issues in the 1980s and 1990s. Her first featured cover remains the top selling edition. She has acted in movies including the comedies Unnecessary Roughness and Loaded Weapon 1, and in dozens of television shows including the popular Melrose Place. She has written books for children and for busy moms and recently started her own publishing company. But it is the Kathy Ireland Worldwide® brand that has brought her the most success. With a focus on designing practical and affordable products, Ireland has built a fashion empire. In 2012, the former supermodel graced the cover of Forbes Magazine, which nicknamed her “Supermogul” for her success.

New England Institute of Technology will confer an honorary doctor of humane letters during commencement on nationally-recognized business leader Cheryl Merchant in recognition of her contributions to the betterment of Rhode Island. Merchant is President and Chief Executive Officer of Rhode Island’s Hope Global. Known for her ability to motivate, inspire and lead innovative teams, Merchant has transformed the 131-year-old Rhode Island textile manufacturing company. Under her leadership, Hope Global has nearly tripled its revenue, product lines and market share in the automotive, industrial and defense industries. Merchant has accomplished this while focusing on teamwork, employee success and community involvement.

Merchant has always been a high achiever. She earned her undergraduate degree in Business Administration in three-and-a-half years while working two jobs. She balanced her graduate studies with an emerging leadership career at General Motors, and became the first woman on the second shift to lead a 65-member team as an assembly line supervisor in downtown Detroit. She continued working in the automotive industry as a production supervisor at Mazda, then at Ford Motor Company. Her leadership skills helped her advance to the position of quality manager, responsible for five production facilities, employing twelve thousand people in Mexico. She moved on to become plant manager at Lear Corporation in Mexico with 3,500 employees, and worked her way up to managing international operations in Canada, Poland and England.

In 1999, she was recruited to take over Rhode Island’s Hope Webbing where she realigned the organization, changed the company name to Hope Global, Engineered Textile Solutions. In my opinion the best way to prepare to be a mechanical engineer is to get your foot in the door. Sometimes the first job offer related to your career, take it. Sometimes the first job you are offered salary should not matter. The most important thing is to get your foot in the door.

What can current students do to better prepare for jobs in this field? My advice for those people looking for jobs in their field is that sometimes you have to take a chance. If there is a job offer related to your career, take it. Sometimes the offered salary should not matter. The most important thing is that students research and try to solve problems on their own. I learned most of my professional skills from two great teachers at NEIT, Bruce Feedoroff and Steve Seminara. They make students research and try to solve problems on their own.
The Ninth Annual Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) International Honor Society’s induction ceremony was held at NEIT on March 6, 2014, when more than 30 students were recognized for their academic, leadership, and fellowship achievements. Students must complete a minimum of 24 quarter hours of coursework leading to an associate degree and maintain a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.80 out of a possible 4.0 to become a member of NEIT’s chapter known as Beta Xi Phi. PTK members gain access to scholarships as well as educational and career resources through the society. Phi Theta Kappa was established in 1918 and is considered to be the oldest, largest, and most respected honor society recognizing associate degree students with more than 1,640 million members and 1,310 chapters located in 50 states, U.S. territories, Canada and Germany. Congratulations to these outstanding students. A complete list of inductees may be found at www.neit.edu/blog.

Phi Theta Kappa Inductees Honored

ACE Rhode Island Comes to NEIT

NEIT served as the host site for 25 high school students and their mentors during a 16-week program with ACE Rhode Island (Architecture, Construction, and Engineering). ACE offers high school students the opportunity to work closely with building industry professionals to explore the various jobs available in the fields of architecture, engineering, and construction. On March 12, 2014, these talented students presented their unique designs ranging from vacation property to sustainable homes. (Pictured from left: Andrew Breiter-Wu, Tori Coulter, Abigail Snow, and Jeff Cachtart, ACE Coordinator).

KATHY IRELAND

Continued from page 1

This survey businesswoman didn’t start out to be a model. Her business acumen goes back to her childhood in Santa Barbara, California where she first sold painted rocks to neighbors, then advanced to designing handbags and jewelry to sell at craft fairs. By the age of 11 she had her own paper route, something she earned after responding to an ad that read “Are you the boy for the job?” She wrote to the editor saying she was the girl for the job, and was hired. She started modeling while still in high school after her mom bought modeling lessons for this self-avowed tomboy who spent her free time surfing.

While still a teenager, Ireland traveled the world alone to do modeling jobs, navigating a business fraught with rejection and criticism. Learning to deal with that rejection helped her prepare her for the business world. “As students step out into the world I encourage them not to let their circumstances or someone else’s opinion of them define or destroy them,” says Ireland. “Even with this incredible degree they’re receiving, I believe they will hear ‘no’ more than ‘yes’ and it’s a part of life.”

When Ireland made the move from modeling on the beach to holding meetings in the boardroom, she launched her business not with line of swimwear or anything glamorous. Her earliest venture with Kathy Ireland Worldwide® was designing a line of socks. With environmental sustainability in mind, she created socks from material made from recycled soda bottles. She also instituted surprise visits to factories to check out working conditions, and made the decision to put people ahead of profits in her business ventures.

She created a line of clothing, then expanded. Her brand now substantially tops Martha Stewart and other household name brands. Ireland sells some $2 billion at retail and has stayed true to her company motto of “finding solutions for families, especially busy moms.” That has meant putting her name on everything from rugs that resist stains to on a possible 4.0 to become a member of NEIT’s chapter known as Beta Xi Phi. PTK members gain access to scholarships as well as educational and career resources through the society. Phi Theta Kappa was established in 1918 and is considered to be the oldest, largest, and most respected honor society recognizing associate degree students with more than 1,640 million members and 1,310 chapters located in 50 states, U.S. territories, Canada and Germany. Congratulations to these outstanding students. A complete list of inductees may be found at www.neit.edu/blog.

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Ireland says her job description as a model was to “shut up and pose.” But this soft-spoken woman has a lot to say and she uses her influence to help others. She is an advocate for women’s health issues and for the care and treatment of Down Syndrome. She is an activist for veterans’ issues, global poverty eradication and education and family issues. She also supports numerous nonprofits including the Elizabeth Taylor HIV/AIDS Foundation and Feed the Children. When earthquakes hit Haiti, she quietly traveled there to help out in the orphanages.

“When I travel to developing countries and I see the oppression, it’s primarily women and children,” says Ireland. “It’s heartbreaking. I believe in fighting for human rights for everyone at every stage of life, but particularly for the most vulnerable. That’s what’s closest to my heart.”

Friends Elizabeth Taylor, Warren Buffet and Eunice Kennedy Shriver inspired Ireland in her philanthropic work. “I am so grateful to these people who have given so much of their time and their life work to help others.”

During commencement, Ireland will receive an honorary degree of humane letters in recognition of her accomplishments and her efforts to help others. “I feel so honored to be invited to speak to the graduates at New England Tech and I just encourage them, as they’re finishing off their school year, to finish well,” she says.
4:00 p.m. Ukrainian time, NEIT students in two groups of students via Skype. On February teaching program, Ms. Allen connected her teaching Business English to Ukrainian in the Business Management Technology program, Heidi Allen, Associate Professor be visiting the U.S. this summer and hope to in Ukraine as well as how to speak a bit of Facebook, and email. NEIT students are Through a granT from the National Mining University. her International Business class conducted an online review of Students discussed families, studies, hobbies, and how for 45 minutes and ended with promises to reconnect through Skype, Facebook, and email. NEIT students are learning about the culture and history of Ukraine as well as how to speak Russian. Two of the Ukrainian students will be visiting the U.S. this summer and hope to visit NEIT during their time here.

Time for TechArts 2014

SO MANY TALENTED members of the New England Tech community have submitted their work for the college’s annual TechArts exhibit. All types of new and applied art are currently on display through June 6th in the NEIT library and includes paintings, pencil, pen and ink, oil, ceramics, sculpture, photographs, watercolors, handmade furniture, theater props, paper, wooden bowls, and more. Some of the work will remain in the library as part of its permanent art collection. The public is invited to the East Greenwich campus library to enjoy the exhibit free of charge. Viewing hours are Monday-Thursday 9 a.m. – 8 p.m., Friday 7:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m., and Saturday 8:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. For more information visit http://library.neit.edu.

Video Gaming Program Receives National Recognition

For the second year in a row, NEIT’s Video Game Development and Design Technology program was named one of the “Top 25 Undergraduate Schools to Study Game Design” for 2014 by The Princeton Review, one of America’s best-known education services companies. Colleges and universities were chosen based on a 2013 survey conducted by The Princeton Review of 150 game design programs in the U.S., Canada, and abroad. The criteria used include the program curriculum, faculty, facilities, and infrastructure, as well as career services, student scholarships, and financial aid. The Princeton Review developed its “Top Schools to Study Video Game Design” project in 2009-2010 utilizing the expertise of a national advisory board to assist in the design of the survey instrument and methodology. Advisory board members include administrators and faculty from respected game design programs and professionals from some of the top gaming companies. The full report is accessible at www.princetonreview.com/game-design.

Cheryl Merchant

Cheryl Merchant is the first time that Chrysler has partnered with a college for gaming purposes.

The Princeton Review

Cheryl Merchant was one of the first women to tested, but it’s worth it.”

Chrysler. Congratulations to the following winners: First Place: Kevin Pierre-Louis and Josie Melgar; Second Place: Dylan Beck and Aaron Beck; Third Place: Jeremy Simmons and Kathryn Smith; and Fourth Place: Kelsey Emmett and Candon Needham.

WINNERS OF THE 2014 Chrysler Gaming Competition were announced on March 18th with faculty, staff, students and Chrysler executives on hand. Students in NEIT’s Associate in Science and Bachelor of Science Video Game Development and Design Technology program were challenged by the Chrysler Learning Academy to develop video game training prototypes for its sales team. Since the 2009 merger with FIAT, this is the first time that Chrysler has partnered

Chrysler’s John Fox, Director, Dealer Training and Instructional Design from Chrysler and SRT Brand Training Manager; and Keith Yaney, Senior Manager, Creative Direction and Instructional Design from Chrysler Learning Academy. Each of the winners received an Amazon gift card courtesy of Chrysler’s Retained Marketing Director, Kristin Bowler.

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And The Winner Is….
**New Alumni Benefit with Gulf Electricity!**

As a member of the NEIT Alumni Association you can now lower your electric bill and help support our Alumni Association with one simple switch! Gulf has served drivers for more than 100 years, and today also supplies electricity in New England. Gulf Electricity offers low, fixed rates month after month as well as reliable service that is transmitted right over existing power lines and delivered by the customer’s current utility company. There are no interruptions in service, no billing changes, no need for appointments or equipment installations. Gulf Electricity passes cost savings directly through to alumni.

**Earn Free Gas!** As a residential customer, alumni can save even more with the Power Points program just for making the switch. New customers will receive a $10 Power Card for free at any Gulf Station, plus for every 8,000 kilowatt-hours used, Gulf will issue an additional $25 Power Card! According to Gulf, the average residential customer will save $60 in Gulf Cash this year! For more information visit gulfElectricity.com

### Marine Career Day Comes to NEIT

**On March 25, 2014, approximately 150 Rhode Island middle and high school students attended New England Tech’s first Marine Career Day held in partnership with the Rhode Island Department of Education (RIDE).** These students, currently studying marine technology at respective schools, had the opportunity to gain a wider variety of marine trade career awareness information and post-secondary education options, as well as meet potential employers and experience marine trade demonstrations.

For the first time, NEIT and RIDEdeliveredan event of this type for middle and high school students that focused on the marine industry and its many career options,” stated Fred Sardi, Director of Career Services, in charge of the event. “We’ve had a number of successes so far: students who visited our booth knew about the different areas of marine technology skills are learning today can be incorporated into more advanced training so that they will be well-prepared for the many types of careers available in the marine industry.”

**With 68 employers in attendance at the NEIT Technology Career Expo ‘14 held on March 6th, students and gradsladtheopportunity to learn about potential job opportunities first-hand. Many students who met with these employers were able to interview to the event and some already have job offers. A sampling of the employers represented at the event include: Astro-Med, Ardon Networking, Cumberland Police Department, Dimeo, EMC, FM Global, General Dynamics, GTECH, Lifespan, Mass Department of Transportation, National Lumber, Precision Design Studios, Sensata Technologies, Shawmut Design Group, Tech Research Group, Terra Patents, and Yell and Wilner. One employer commented: “We have so many solid candidates from the job fair that we have to make some difficult choices on who to bring on board.”**

According to Pat Blais, Director of Career Services, “This event is one of five career expos that New England Tech hosts, all of which give our students the opportunity to meet employers face-to-face. Employers told us the pool of applicants was very strong so it’s a win-win situation.” Jennifer Adamek, an Information Technology/Cyber Security student who received two job offers as a result of attending the Career Expo stated, “One thing that really helped me after the Career Expo was writing thank you letters to the companies for taking the time to chat with us. They really appreciated the extra effort. Thanks again for everything.”

**COMMEMCMENT**

Sunday, May 4, 2014
RI Convention Center Providence, RI
11:00 a.m.

**Upcoming TECH NITE OPEN HOUSES**

Tuesday, June 3, 2014
Tuesday, August 5, 2014

All Tech Nites begin at the East Providence campus and run from 3:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

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The following students have achieved academic excellence for the quarter ending March 22, 2014. These full-time students have been placed on the Dean’s List for achieving a GPA of 3.6 or higher on a maximum scale of 4.0. Congratulations to all.

**DEAN’S LIST**
During the tense, action-packed moments of the final match, Renegade Robotics (picture left) cheer on their robot “Renegade” as it makes all the right moves to earn a spot on the winning Alliance. Knox Home Robotics (picture right) seal their victory with their robot “KF” also seizing a place on the Winning Alliance. Losney Tuned Robotics (not pictured) rounded out the Winning Alliance with their robot “The Rev’rend” as all three teams headed to Pennsylvania for the FIRST® Super Regional Competition.

NEIT served as the host site for the Eighth Annual FIRST® (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Tech Challenge. More than 35 Rhode Island middle school and high school robotics teams showcased their custom-designed robots on Saturday, February 8th. The competition was held at NEIT’s Center for Automotive Technology at the college’s Access Road campus in Warwick, RI. These students worked diligently over the past several months as they designed and programmed their robots to conform to this year’s theme, “Block Party.” On hand to greet the students, along with their family and friends, were Senator Sheldon Whitehouse, Warwick Mayor Scott Avedisian, and Congressman Jim Langevin. After a full day of competition, the results were as follows: WINNING ALLIANCE: Renegade Robotics (Northern RI), Knox Home Robotics (Foster RI) and Losney Tuned Robotics (Mt Hope High School, Bristol).

FINALIST ALLIANCE WINNERS: Aquidneck Island Robotics, Providence Technical School and the Providence Career and Technical Academy
INNOVATION AWARD: The Fellowship (Scituate, RI)
ROCKWELL COLLENS INNOVATION AWARD: Aquidneck Island Robotics
FIRST® DESIGN AWARD: Renegade Robotics
CONNECT KNOX HOME Robotics
MOTIVATE UNDERDRAW (Mt. Hope High School, Bristol)
THINK AWARD: Slater Junior High School (Pawtucket)

PROMOTE ALLIANCE: The Fellowship
COMPASS AWARD: Aquidneck Island Robotics
As the Inspire Award winner and second place winner respectively, The Fellowship and the Ladybots (Mt. Hope High School in Bristol), along with the captain of the Winning Alliance, Renegade Robotics, avanzed to one of four Super-Regional Championship Tournaments held across the country. The most competitive regional competition is held in York, Pennsylvania, April 3-5, 2014, at the York Expo Center. Winners will then travel to the FIRST® World Championship in St. Louis, Missouri, this June.

ATTENTION ALUMNI
All alumni are automatically registered as members of the NEIT Alumni Association. We value our graduates’ professional interests, events, workshops, and benefits that may be made available to alumni. Please forward your suggestions to our Office of Development and Alumni Relations, at jsongrad@neit.edu or call 410-739-5000, ext. 2704.

A valuable benefit available to NEIT alumni is special insurance programs through Liberty Mutual Insurance and AFLAC. Liberty Mutual is offering group discount rates for auto and home (home, condo, and tenant) insurance. AFLAC provides supplemental insurance to cover costs of fairly living expenses when you are unable to work due to illness or injury. Both Liberty Mutual and AFLAC are proud partners of the NEIT Alumni Association.

For more information about Liberty Mutual’s insurance programs, call 1-800-523-1002 or visit the NEIT/ALFA website at www.neit.edu/Alfa.

To learn more about AFLAC’s insurance plans, please visit aflac.com/neit.

If you have any questions about the Alumni Association, determine what activities, events, and benefits will be of interest to you. All alumni are automatically registered as members of the NEIT Alumni Association. Your participation in the Alumni Association helps to build an alumni base that will benefit the current as well as future students of NEIT. If you have any questions about the Alumni Association, please contact Pat Blakemore, Director of Development and Alumni Relations, at jsongrad@neit.edu or call 410-739-5000, ext. 2704.

Congratulations to all of our graduates, successes in their careers and all of their future endeavors. We wish them continued success in their careers and all of their future endeavors. We wish them continued

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Congratulations to all of our graduates, successes in their careers and all of their future endeavors. We wish them continued success in their careers and all of their future endeavors. We wish them continued
Meet new people! Learn new things! Check out the list of student activities...
For information about any of these activities, or for information about starting a new club on campus, please contact Melissa Hague, Student Activities Coordinator, at 401-739-5000 extension 3565, by email at mhague@neit.edu, or stop by her office on the EG Campus at the far end of the Food Court.

Student Clubs
There are many interesting student clubs on campus. Get involved, meet new people, have fun, and have something to add to your resume. Check out the student website at http://students.neit.edu for more information.

New England Tech Rotaract Club Installation
The New England Tech Rotaract Club installed new officers on Wednesday, March 26, 2014. Club members presented a variety of multi-cultural skits.

INCOMING OFFICERS
President: Tiffany Serralles, Information Technology, Master’s program
Co-Presidents: Mackenzie McCall, Interior Design, Bachelor’s program and Shashka Parmar, Information Technology, Bachelor’s program
Secretary: Sam McCarran, Psychology, Bachelor’s program
Treasurer: Jake Underwood, Criminal Justice, Associate’s program
New officers were installed after three of his high school students. NEIT Rotaract club members then assembled the engine at their last meeting of the quarter. Great job everyone as the progress of building the replica rolls on!

Spring Quarter Activities
Game Room Tournament Schedule
Sign-up for the following tournaments by emailing Melissa Hague, mhague@neit.edu.
PONG TOURNAMENTS
EG Campus, Game Room, Tuesdays at 11:00 a.m.
Week 4: April 1
Week 6: May 6
Pool Tournaments
EG Campus, Game Room, Thursdays at 11:00 a.m.
Week 3: April 17
Week 9: May 2
Week 7: May 15

Blood Drives
The RB Blood Center will be on the East Greenwich campus Wednesday, April 23 between 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. in the Hall of Fame room and Thursday, April 24 on the Access Road Campus between 2 p.m. – 4 p.m. in the Beachside. Every pint collected has the potential to save up to three lives. The Rhode Island Blood Center needs to collect up to 265 pints of blood every single day to meet the needs of area hospitals. This blood is used to treat cancer patients, burn victims, accident victims, major surgery patients, and more. The RB Blood Center graciously accepts all donations.

Chess
Check it out! We will be available for students to use in the Student Lounge on the EG Campus. What’s your strategy? Will you make them feel the right move? Challenge yourself in a game of chess. Students, faculty, and staff are encouraged to play!

Student Leadership Opportunities
NEIT students are strongly encouraged to get involved on campus by volunteering at NEIT events. Students who volunteer at NEIT events will receive a certificate of participation for each event and the opportunity to earn the CE100 credit. Involvement in college events looks great on a resume! Events include the NEIT Career Fair, Student Leadership Day, Orientation, Tech/Nitro, Quarterly Information Table, Career Fairs, and Commencement.

Quadricycle Club News
Christopher Vassilopoulos, an NEIT adjunct faculty member, still manages to find time to work with members of the college’s Quadricycle Club as they continue to build a replica of Henry Ford’s quadricycle. Chris took advantage of a great opportunity and had a local high school student from Old Colony Regional Vocational Technical High School collaborate with NEIT’s Quadricycle Club students on this project. He took the quadricycle engine frame he fabricated at his high school Metal Fabrication and Welding class to see if they could assist. As a result, the water jackets and engine frame assembly were welded by three of his high school students. NEIT Rotaract club members then assembled the engine at their last meeting of the quarter. Great job everyone as the progress of building the replica rolls on!

PAST EVENTS
Thank you to the NEIT community for supporting student clubs through your donations to their fundraisers and collection drives during the winter quarter.

The Criminal Justice Student Club held a very successful basket raffle the past December and would like to thank everyone who purchased tickets. The Club put together some great themed baskets (entertainment, winter fun and stress relief) to raffle off to the NEIT community. The Criminal Justice Student Club donated $250 to Habitat for Humanity.

The Interior Design Student Alliance held a bake sale on Wednesday, February 12, 2014. Proceeds from the bake sale will help assist in funding for IDSA members to take future technology-related field trips.

The Surgical Technology Student Club held a candy sale on February 4, 2014. Proceeds from the candy sale will help assist in sending students to the annual AST Conference.

The Veterinary Technology Student Club had an Animal Shelter Supply Drive March 3-14, 2014. All items donated will be distributed to the Providence Animal Shelter.

Open Spring Quarter Activities
The Kent County YMCA basketball team has been rented out for the exclusive use of currently enrolled NEIT students! Students must bring their NEIT student ID and must wear sweats to participate. Kent County YMCA, 490 Goodwin Road, Warwick, RI 02886

Spring Quarter: Thursday, weekends 2:30-4:30 p.m. when classes are in session

6 vs. 6 Soccer Tournament

Check your NEIT student email for weekly Student Activities and Announcements.

Get involved, meet new people, have fun, and have something to add to your resume. Check out the student website at http://students.neit.edu for more information.

New England Tech Golf Club
New England Tech Student Pit Crew Club

PHI THETA KAPPA
International Honor Society

QUADRICYCLE CLUB

SKILLSUSA STUDENT CLUB

SOTA CLUB

Student Occupational Therapy Association

SPA CLUB

Student Physical Therapist Assistant

STUDENT NURSES’ ASSOCIATION

SURGICAL TECHNOLOGY CLUB

RESPIRATORY CARE CLUB

ROTORACT CLUB

T.ECH RADIO STUDENT CLUB

TECH RECORD CLUB

VETERINARY TECHNOLOGY CLUB

Are you interested in starting a new club?
For more information contact: Melissa Hague, Student Activities Coordinator mhague@neit.edu

NEIT is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, Inc.