

# Kathy Nelson

Founder, Head of School  
World Academy

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**K**athy is the head of the school and founder of world academy in Nashua. Originally from the Maryland/Washington, D.C. area, she graduated with a BA in Education from the University of Maryland/College Park, before marrying and relocating to New Hampshire, where she has lived for more than 40 years. After teaching in many area schools, Nelson started her own early childhood program in 1980 for 38 3-to 5-year-olds, which has grown in size and configuration into World Academy, that currently serves

over 500 students from infant through Grade 8 in an NAEYC and NEASC accredited private school, with the full time 'Summer Quest' program. World Academy is situated on a 6-acre campus in a modern, state-of-the-art facility in South Nashua.

Active in many city organizations, including as a 10-year past member of Nashua Rotary West, Nelson was also a director of the Child Care Advisory Commission of Nashua for 15 years and a trustee for the Humane

Society for Greater Nashua. She is a commissioner on the City of Nashua's Review and Comment Commission; holds memberships in Early Learning NH, the National Association for the Education of Young Children, the New England Association of Schools and Colleges, Yankee Golden Retriever Rescue, the National Organization of Women; is a Notary Public and is active in Immaculate Conception Parish.

In 2000, Nelson was awarded Providian's Child Care Leader Award

Continued on page 30

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Continued from page 29

and was nominated for the Nashua Chamber's Business Person of the Year Award in 2004 and Citizen's Bank Business Award in 2005. She is a Paul Harris Fellow of Rotary International and was awarded the Distinguished Service Award by the City of Nashua. Her life was featured in an article called "Mothering in the '90s" in Nashua Magazine, 1992, and she was recognized as one of the "1990 Women of the New Hampshire" by Network Publications. In May 2005, Nelson's school was awarded the "Not your Typical Business Award" from Citizen's Bank and World Academy was featured in the New Hampshire

Business Review's "In Good Company" recognition section in 2011.

In 2010, Nelson spearheaded a 25,000 square foot addition to World Academy campus, bringing the facility to more than 55,000 square feet to serve the community with a new theater/gymnasium and two-floor modern Middle School wing.

Nelson has also received a recommendation from Sen. Jeanne Shaheen as an exemplary citizen of the state of NH and a commendation from former Mayor Donnalee Lozeau, for distinguished service to the City of Nashua.

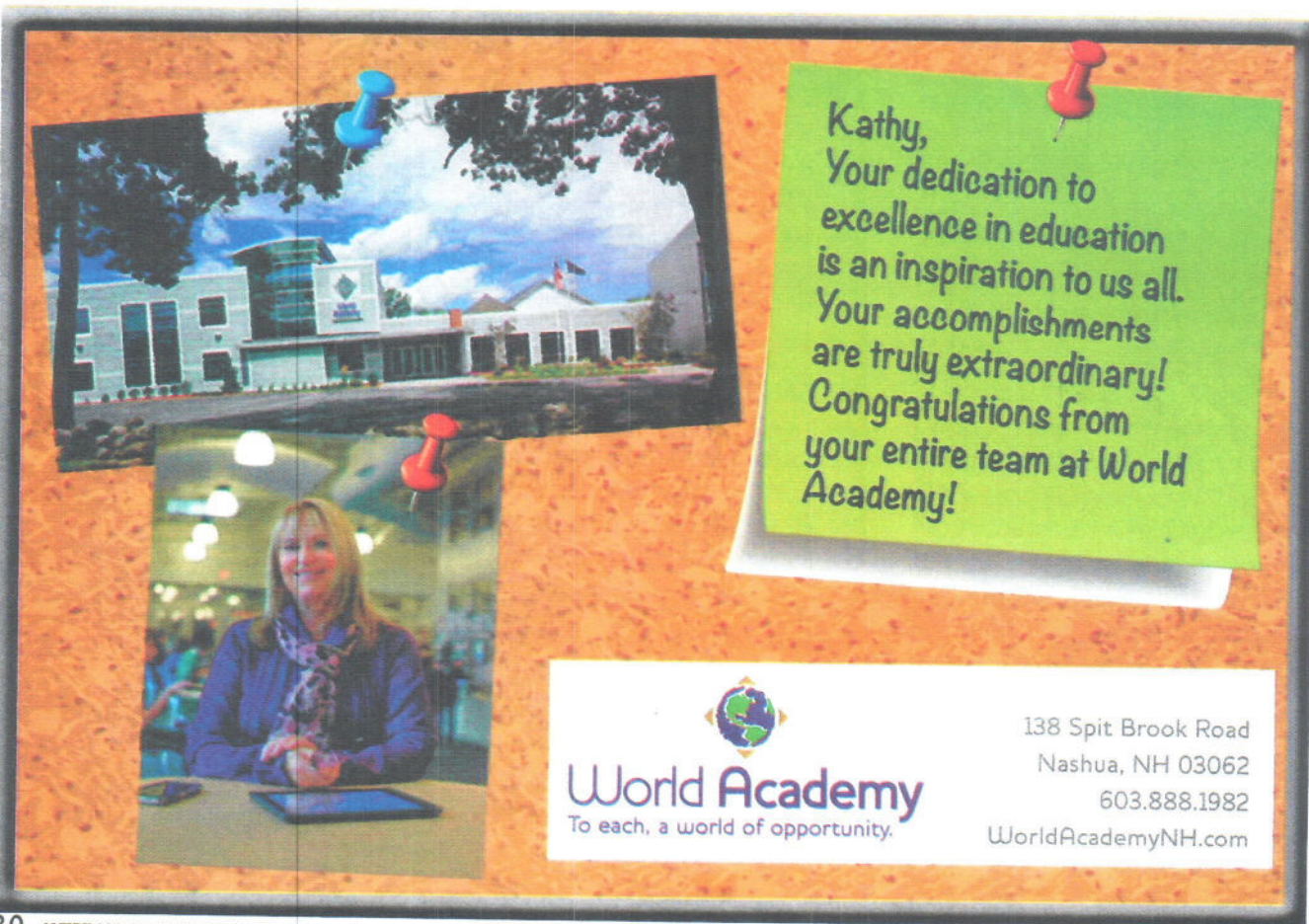
In April, 2016 the Nashua Telegraph voted her one of the 25 Extraordinary

Women in Nashua honored for devotion and dedication to the community.


In February, 2015, the New Hampshire Business Review selected her as a 2015 Outstanding Woman in Business.

World Academy was ranked number 39 in the top 50 women-led companies in NH in October 2012 by Business NH magazine. In April 2013 and October 2014, World Academy was ranked number 32 in the top women-led businesses in NH and 87 in the top 100 family owned businesses.

Nelson has presented at many industry programs and has written articles supporting the education and child care fields.



*Kathy,  
Your dedication to  
excellence in education  
is an inspiration to us all.  
Your accomplishments  
are truly extraordinary!  
Congratulations from  
your entire team at World  
Academy!*

  
**World Academy**  
To each, a world of opportunity.

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