



## The Kristine Battersby “Spirit of Community Award”

Education is for improving the lives of others and for leaving your community and world better than you found it.

Marian Wright Edelman

Kristine was born on April 15, 1942 in Gouverneur to Margaret and George Battersby. Mr. Battersby was an attorney and Mrs. Battersby was an integral member of the medical/nursing community.

She graduated from Gouverneur High School and went on to graduate from Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, NY, where she majored in interior design and interior architecture.

Kristine’s extensive career began at the firm of Tom Lee Ltd. in New York City when she was hired to work on the apartment of Charles Revlon in New York City. When completed, she was hired by Tom Lee to become a permanent designer with his firm, which specialized in hotel design. She was assigned to projects in many New York City hotels, including the Intercontinental, The Sheraton, The Plaza and many more. Upon the completion of the famous Helmsley Palace, Kristine left Tom Lee Ltd. Her career expanded to designing hotels in Taiwan, Japan and several European countries.

In 1980 she opened her own firm, Interior Designs International (IDI). Her firm was awarded the five-year restoration project of the Waldorf Astoria. IDI continued for 20 years, completing many projects for many major hotels, restaurants and homes for many clients including Mr. Jack Welch and Mr. John Kluge.

Kris retired to Gouverneur and became active in the community. She was a member of Kiwanis, Gouverneur Garden Club, Gouverneur Arts Club and the Gouverneur Hospital Auxiliary.

Kristine’s award will be presented to students entering the medical field. Kristine’s mother, Margaret Hanson Battersby, set up the first laboratory at the VanDuzee Hospital in Gouverneur. She accomplished this task in 1936, well before women were recognized in a medical setting. With a dedicated focus on improving medical care, Margaret was instrumental in the formation of the E.J. Noble Hospital in Gouverneur in 1950. Her unwavering dedication to quality health care was recognized by the title “Director of Nursing” for the E.J. Nobel Hospitals of Gouverneur, Canton and Alexandria Bay. She was the first person to hold this title and assume the responsibility for all three locations. The award, funded by Kristine, is in keeping with the standards set by Margaret and ardently followed by her daughter.