University of New Hampshire
Peter T. Paul College of Business and Economics

CEO Speaker Series

Advising Family Business and Developing Leaders



Guest Speaker
Kathy Garfield

Transition Advisor
Keller Companies, Inc.

Kathy Garfield is the third generation of a family business, Keller Companies Inc., that holds several other companies including: Kalwall, large-scale skylights and daylighting solutions; Structures Unlimited, design build enclosures utilizing the Kalwall panel; Kal Lite, wall and ceiling panels; and Keller Products Inc, premium OEM percussion shells and cylinders.

Keller Companies traces its roots back more than 80 years to Manchester, NH, where they still operate today in their original Union Street facility. Founded by Robert R. Keller Sr., a pioneer in material innovation, the company grew from WWII defense grade laminations to commercial products including furniture components, surfers, and early snowboards. These early innovations led to the invention of the Kalwall panel. Kalwall Corporation and Structures Unlimited grew into the anchor businesses of the Keller Family. More than 400 employees across multiple Keller divisions carry forward the legacy of innovation and American craftsmanship, making this company one of New Hampshire's largest private employers.

In 2026, the board and leadership of Keller Companies Inc. made the decision to sell 3 of their businesses. Kathy, a former Chair of the NH Business & Industry of New Hampshire Board of Directors, will speak to us about her own professional path and about the decision-making process and steps involved in the transition from a family owned and operated business to an outside corporate entity. She will share the lessons to be learned from her leadership position.

Nov. 19, 2026
Three Chimneys Inn
Durham, NH

8:00 AM Networking & Breakfast
9-10 AM Program including Q & A

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The UNH CEO Speaker Series is an outreach program of the UNH Peter T. Paul College of Business and Economics serving CEOs, presidents, and senior managers of companies in northern New England.

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