

Keiser names Manatee Memorial 'Employer of the Year'

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HERALD STAFF REPORT

MANATEE -- Keiser University will hold its first statewide commencement Saturday in Orlando, and Manatee Memorial Hospital will get recognition at the historic ceremony.

The university plans to bestow Manatee Memorial Hospital with its "Employer of the Year Award," according to a Keiser University press release.

"This company (Manatee Memorial Hospital) has hired from multiple campuses in the area including Lakeland, Sarasota and Tampa," the release stated. "They have hired at least 102 graduates in such fields as nursing, radiological technology, medical assisting, nuclear medicine and Information technology."

Manatee Memorial Hospital was chosen from a field of "outstanding nominations," the release added.

"Over 62 percent of Keiser University graduates annually have degrees in STEM -- science, technology, engineering and math -- and health care and employers in these fields are critical to Florida's economy," said Belinda Keiser, vice chancellor of community relations and student advancement at Keiser University. "Manatee Memorial Hospital does an outstanding job in providing the highest quality of care for its patients and our graduates routinely tell us that being employed there has proven to be truly rewarding."

The commencement takes place at 11 a.m. Saturday at the Bob Carr Performing Arts Center, 401 West Livingston St., Orlando.

Comment from Manatee Memorial Hospital officials concerning the award was not immediately available.

United States Congressman Daniel Webster of Florida's 8th Congressional District and United States Congresswoman Corrine Brown of Florida's 3rd Congressional District will serve as the commencement speakers.

Orange County Mayor Teresa Jacobs will provide welcoming remarks for more than 400 graduates and the 2,500 expected guests.

Keiser University is a private, not-for-profit university serving nearly 18,000 students pursuing doctoral through associate degrees on 15 campuses and online, and employing nearly 3,500 staff and faculty.

Sixty-two percent of Keiser students graduate in STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) and healthcare fields.