

KIRSTEN GILLIBRAND
NEW YORK



UNITED STATES SENATOR

April 5, 2019

Dear Friends,

It is a privilege to send greetings to everyone attending the National Technical Institute of the Deaf's (NTID) rededication of the Lyndon Baines Johnson Hall here today at RIT. Although I am not with you in person, I join you in spirit to celebrate this remarkable anniversary, to honor the extraordinary efforts of the founding members of NTID, and to recommit ourselves to the mission of this incredible institution for the next 50 years.

More than 50 years ago, 44 deaf men and 26 deaf women arrived at RIT and became the charter class of NTID. Since then, the program has prepared more than 8,000 graduates for the workforce. NTID uses innovative strategies and solutions that address the communication barriers facing students, staff, and faculty who are deaf or hard-of-hearing. I have seen firsthand the excellent and high quality education each NTID student receives by having three interns from NTID in my Washington, Long Island, and Rochester offices. NTID has empowered deaf and hard-of-hearing people to make history and to change our communities for the better. By establishing new innovation and entrepreneurship opportunities, along with outreach initiatives like the Rochester Bridges to the Doctorate program, I know NTID will continue to educate, employ, and embolden deaf and hard-of-hearing leaders for years to come.

I send my best wishes for a wonderful event and many more years of continued success.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kirsten Gillibrand".

Kirsten Gillibrand
United States Senator