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News Bureau • Schofield Hall 201 • Eau Claire, WI 54702

phone: 715-836-4741 fax: 715-836-2900 Web: www.uwec.edu e-mail: newsbur@uwec.edu

UW-Eau Claire Alumna named Wisconsin Special Services Teacher of the Year

RELEASED: Oct. 26, 2009

EAU CLAIRE — A University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire alumna has been named the Wisconsin Special Services Teacher of the Year by Wisconsin state superintendent Tony Evers.

Kay Zastrow, who graduated from UW-Eau Claire in 1975 with a double major in education and special education, received the honor at Keller Elementary School in Green Bay, where she is a teacher.

"This award allows those of us who teach to tell our story and to encourage others to take the unique and incredible career journey that is experienced only by teachers," said Zastrow in response to receiving the award. "To be a teacher means to foster a love for learning in students by demonstrating that there is wonder and joy in each learning opportunity. When one of my young students aspires to solve a problem and develops a new lifelong skill, I am reminded that there is no greater profession than to be a teacher."

Zastrow was selected from 624 Kohl Education Teacher Fellows in Wisconsin. She will receive a \$3,000 award from U.S. Sen. Herb Kohl, through the Herb Kohl Educational Foundation and will compete for the National Teacher of the Year award.

Zastrow has been a teacher in the Green Bay Public Schools for more than 30 years. Prior to teaching in Green Bay, she served as a special education resource teacher for the Bloomington, Minn., Public Schools.

Early in her career Zastrow received the Outstanding Young Educators Award from the Green Bay Jaycees and in 1988 received the Outstanding Education Award for Green Bay Public Schools.

Zastrow, who lives in Green Bay, has achieved certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. She received her master's degree from UW-Oshkosh and professional development certification from UW-Green Bay.

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