

*Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of South Florida, Miami-Dade Teacher of the Year Coalition, & the Armando Alejandro Jr. Memorial Foundation*

## **“Spirit of Service-Learning Award”**

Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of South Florida Inc. (RPCVSF), the Miami-Dade Teacher of the Year Coalition, and the Armando Alejandro Jr. Memorial Foundation are committed to building a better South Florida by encouraging a new generation of informed and engaged citizens. We believe that involving students in academic service-learning is a critically important approach to teaching and learning that will help create this new generation of citizens.

Curriculum-based service-learning is a teaching strategy that allows students to learn and develop through active participation in thoughtfully organized service in the community that is **integrated into and enhances academic curriculum**. Service-learning provides teachers and students with opportunities to select areas of interest connected to academic studies, do research, perform meaningful service, reflect on that service and demonstrate what they have learned. Service-learning programs increase student empowerment, ownership in outcomes, and commitment to meaningful civic engagement while building a better South Florida/global community.

This award recognizes and honors **K-12** and **college/university educators** each year for contributing to the integration of service into the curriculum and for making a commitment to connect students through service to help meet critical needs in the South Florida and/or global community.

### **ELIGIBILITY**

A faculty or teacher in the K-12 or higher education system in South Florida.

### **CRITERIA**

1. The service experience is integrated into and enhances the academic curriculum. This includes:
  - Preparation prior to the service and academic integration throughout the class/course
  - Action (service)
  - Reflection
  - Demonstration of what students have learned or taken away from the experience
2. The project must contribute to students’ knowledge of their community’s needs and their willingness to be engaged in finding solutions.
3. The service performed must make a difference in meeting real community needs.

### **NOMINATIONS**

Complete and submit via email the [nomination form](#) found at [www.rpcvsf.org](http://www.rpcvsf.org) under “Programs” and then “Spirit of Service-Learning.” Individuals may nominate themselves, or they may be nominated by someone else. Additional information can be found on the website — including a summary of previous year nominees and winners, and selection criteria. **Deadline: June 30, 2018**

### **SELECTION**

An RPCVSF/*Teacher of the Year Coalition* committee will review nominations and select K-12 and higher education honorees. All nominees will receive a letter of commendation, be featured on the RPCVSF website, be invited to an award reception, and winners will receive a cash award.

For more information contact Josh Young at 305-237-7477 / [joshyoung590@gmail.com](mailto:joshyoung590@gmail.com)



Miami-Dade County

TEACHER OF THE YEAR COALITION



ARMANDO ALEJANDRE JR.  
FEBRUARY 24, 1996  
MEMORIAL FOUNDATION