

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

# “Changemaking Education Award”

Returned Peace Corps Volunteers of South Florida Inc. (RPCVSF), the Armando Alejandro Jr. Memorial Foundation, and the Miami-Dade Teacher of the Year Coalition are committed to building a better South Florida by encouraging a new generation of informed and engaged citizens. We celebrate and recognize K-12 and higher education teachers who create educational experiences that intentionally prepare students for informed, engaged participation in their communities’ civic and democratic life by providing opportunities to develop civic knowledge, skills, and dispositions through learning and practice\*.

We believe that this type of changemaking education sparks a sense of agency in students and provides real-life opportunities to understand problems and practice creating positive social and/or environmental change. This type of teaching and learning increases student empowerment, commitment to meaningful civic engagement, while building a better South Florida/global community and creating a new generation of changemakers.

This award recognizes educators who address one or more of the following civic learning elements, with a focus on actively engaging with the community:

- 1) Learning from others, self, & environment to develop informed perspectives on social, civic, and/or environmental issues
- 2) Recognizing & appreciating human diversity & commonality
- 3) Behaving, & working through controversy, with civility
- 4) Taking an active role in the political process
- 5) Participating actively in public life, public problem solving, & service
- 6) Assuming leadership & membership roles in organizations
- 7) Developing empathy, ethics, values, and sense of social responsibility
- 8) Promoting social justice locally and globally

*\*For example, service-learning (curricular and co-curricular), Project-Based Learning with a civic focus, community engaged research, etc.*

## ELIGIBILITY

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

## CRITERIA

1. The civic learning and engagement experiences are integrated into student learning. This includes:
  - Preparation
  - Action/engagement
  - Reflection
  - Demonstration of what students have learned or taken away from the experience
2. The experience must contribute to students’ knowledge of their community’s needs and their willingness to be engaged in finding solutions.
3. The engagement 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 “Changemaking Education Award.” 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, 2023**

## 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 Linda Whitmyre at [linda.whitmyre@gmail.com](mailto:linda.whitmyre@gmail.com)



Miami-Dade County

TEACHER OF THE YEAR COALITION



ARMANDO ALEJANDRE JR.  
FEBRUARY 24, 1996  
MEMORIAL FOUNDATION