

Dept. of Civil Rights: 2020 Alix Olson Award for the Promotion of a Tolerant and Just Community Winner is Oscar Mireles

Posted on Monday, Dec 6, 2021

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Seeking Tolerance and Justice Over Hate, or “STAJOH”, was formed in 1999 in order to combat hate crimes in our community. STAJOH created the Alix Olson Award in 2011 to honor retired Madison Police Detective Alix Olson and her admirable leadership against hate in our community during her career.

Oscar Mireles has fostered a community of mutual acceptance and equality in the City of Madison and Dane County for over two decades, leading by example and having a significant impact on community participation in the spheres of poetry and art, social justice and educational access, and brings together diverse segments of the community through his arts initiatives and creates opportunities for collaboration and support across communities through his service to organizations and groups.

Mr. Mireles has been the Executive Director of Omega School for over 25 years, providing fruitful approaches to student support, relocating the school to a historically marginalized neighborhood and changing the way student outcome disparities are viewed.

Mr. Mireles impacts our community through his service as a poet and founding member of several organizations that build bridges to bring together individuals, activists, educators, children, young adults, and others by creating opportunities for collaboration and support of one another and of marginalized people in our community.

The City of Madison Department of Civil Rights and STAJOH congratulate and thank Mr Mireles for all he has done, and continues to do, for our community.

The Alix Awards for 2020 and 2021 will be presented at the December 7, 2021 Common Council meeting.