



PRESS RELEASE

KIRKWOOD HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION ANNOUNCES 2023 DENIS HART AWARD WINNER

KIRKWOOD, MISSOURI: The Kirkwood Human Rights Commission has awarded its 2023 Denis Hart Award for Excellence to Thomas Ptacek. The Award, named in memory of former KHRC Chairperson Denis Hart, recognizes individuals who have worked to foster mutual respect, eliminate discrimination and promote diversity and inclusion. Mr. Ptacek has worked with the "Kirkwood for Everyone" group which promotes affordable housing as well as the after school "Heart-to-Heart Tutoring Program" created several years ago by volunteers to assist under-achieving Kirkwood School District elementary students. He has also served on the Board of the Community Gospel Choir of St. Louis and LifeBridge Kirkwood which operates a lower-cost market and provides life skills coaching and financial education. Mr. Ptacek will be presented this Award at an upcoming City Council Meeting.

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