

City of Mercer Island, Washington *Proclamation* 

WHEREAS, in 1990, the City Council began recognizing outstanding contributions of Mercer Island community members and the City has continued this tradition for more than 30 years.

At the March 26, 2022, City Council Planning Session, the Council selected Avi Schiffman as the 2021 Community Member of the Year for his efforts to make data on COVID-19 easily accessible to the global community.

Avi built the <u>nCoV2019.live</u> website while he was a student at Mercer Island High School, which became one of the most popular information hubs tracking COVID-19 cases around the world. He spent countless hours working on the website and ensuring the information was accurate and current. He also turned down offers from advertisers to ensure <u>nCoV2019.live</u> remained ad-free and unbiased.

Avi is a champion for the web as a free source of information and data and he has continued to create sites that track and provide information. One of his recent projects is a collaboration on the Ukraine Take Shelter website, which connects Ukrainian refugees with potential hosts in neighboring countries. Avi hopes his work is an inspiration to other young people and shows that they too can make a difference.

Through Avi's innovation and drive to problem solve, he has positively impacted the global community.

**NOW, THEREFORE,** I, Salim Nice, Mayor of the City of Mercer Island, do hereby proclaim Avi Schiffmann as the

## **2021 COMMUNITY MEMBER OF THE YEAR**

APPROVED, this 19th day of July 2022

Mayor Salim Nice

Proclamation No. 291