“THROUGH MUSIC, WE TEACH KIDS TO SHARE IN ALL THE COMMONALITIES THEY HAVE.”

Teaching for Tomorrow

From the dedicated work of civil rights activists to extensive cultural programming, Madison-area institutions and community leaders are teaching diversity in profound and life-changing ways. BY LAURA SALINGER

Storytelling on the Move
Take some African drumming, add African storytelling and cultural dialogue, and you have African Storytelling on Wheels. Housed in UW–Madison’s African Studies Program, ASW brings students of African origin to Wisconsin elementary schools where they use storytelling as a vehicle for sharing cultures. “The goal is to create a greater appreciation for the legitimacy and vibrancy of African cultures,” says ASW project assistant Matt Brown. “More than just telling stories, UW–Madison students engage young schoolchildren in conversation about Africa.”

Thinking for Tomorrow
Dr. John Odom, affectionately dubbed the godfather of civil rights in Madison, has long been at the forefront of diversity issues. Odom founded and runs the Charles Hamilton Houston Institute, a think tank providing social, economic and educational outreach...