

# YOUNG CITIZEN OF THE YEAR NOMINEE

## PRANAVI VANKAYALA

NOMINATOR: SRINIVAS BADAMI



Pranavi, an 8<sup>th</sup> grader at Wells Middle School, dedicated her 2024 to giving back to the community through volunteering in various organizations. She fostered cultural understanding at Katha Munch, Inc., by volunteering in their play, "Indian Matchmaking," and even earned the "President's Voluntary Service Award" for her commitment. Pranavi volunteered with VSF (Vasavi Seva Foundation), a group dedicated to preserving heritage and serving the underprivileged. She helped prepare and distribute monthly meals to the homeless.

At HSS (Hindu Swayam Sevak Sangh), Pranavi participated in programs like Sewa Diwali (food collection drive), a backpack drive, and taught Sun Salutations in schools. As an active member of PMHT (Panchamukha Hanuman Temple), she volunteered for various cultural celebrations, including serving food, decorating, and cleaning. Pranavi also volunteered for a Dublin Mayor candidate's campaign.

Pranavi's volunteering spirit extended to her school library, where she assisted the librarian with book organization, science fairs, and even ran a book club. Pranavi had to face difficulties with timelines for activities done at Katha Munch, as it is sometimes scheduled at odd hours and conflicted with her studies. However, she still managed to give of herself to provide the help as needed.