

ORGANIZATION OF THE YEAR NOMINEE

SENSORY WALL, INC.

NOMINATOR: JYOTI SHARMA



In 2024, Sensory Wall profoundly impacted the Dublin community by transforming classrooms into inclusive, supportive spaces for special needs students. Led by an Eagle Scout who also serves on the Dublin Mayor's Council, Sensory Wall embodies leadership, innovation, and a commitment to service. The organization designed and delivered over eight custom sensory boards to elementary, middle, and high schools, both within and beyond the Dublin Unified School District. These installations directly enriched the lives of over 200 students, offering tools that fostered focus, reduced anxiety, and empowered learning in ways traditional resources could not.

Beyond the classroom, Sensory Wall became a beacon of hope and community engagement. Through events like their sensory-friendly

holiday fair and community art showcase, they brought together over 500 residents, offering a shared experience of understanding and compassion. These events not only raised funds to sustain their mission but also strengthened the community's appreciation for the importance of inclusivity in education. Their dedication to innovation and collaboration was evident in securing grants to expand their reach and in partnering with educators to maximize the walls' effectiveness. By involving local volunteers in the assembly and design process, Sensory Wall provided meaningful opportunities for residents to directly contribute to a cause that touches the heart of Dublin's values.

Sensory Wall's vision is not just about creating tools, but about fostering a future where every child feels seen, supported, and capable. Their extraordinary contributions in 2024 embody the spirit of service and inclusivity, making them a truly deserving candidate for Organization of the Year.

In 2024, Sensory Wall faced a range of challenges while serving the community. Securing funds for essential tools and workshop setup proved difficult, impacting the efficiency of production. Delays in receiving shipments of materials further hindered timelines, while ensuring the quality of sensory toys and managing returns added to operational complexities. Maintenance issues and delays in mounting the walls occasionally disrupted schedules and impacted timely delivery to schools. The organization's leader, a junior in high school, faced the additional challenge of balancing rigorous academic responsibilities with running and sustaining the project. Managing studies while ensuring the smooth functioning of fundraising, production, and community engagement required immense dedication and time management. Despite these obstacles, Sensory Wall's resilience, led by the determination of its Eagle Scout founder, enabled them to overcome setbacks and continue making a profound impact on the lives of special needs students across Dublin and beyond.