

ORGANIZATION OF THE YEAR NOMINEE

DUBLIN 4-H

NOMINATOR: SOWMYA RAMANI



I pledge my HEAD to clearer thinking, my HEART to greater loyalty, my HANDS to larger service, and my HEALTH to better living, for my club, my community, my country, and my world. This symbolizes the character of one of the oldest youth organizations in the country, founded in 1902: 4-H. The

organization has always focused on the betterment and development of youth, mainly through volunteerism and volunteer leaders. The Dublin chapter of 4-H is a true reflection of all the 4-H values. Celebrating its 70th anniversary, the chapter has a glorious history. Ever since its inception in 1950, the chapter has been championing community service and youth leadership in Dublin by providing an open and encouraging environment for kids and youth between 7 to 19 years to build self-esteem and participate in learning activities that focus on building qualities like Citizenship, Leadership, Social Responsibility, and Respectfulness. For decades, the club has continued to provide opportunities and create a platform for youth in Dublin to learn and pursue the path of being model citizens and acquire Life Skills. True to the slogan of 4-H, "Learn by Doing," kids learn and discover their strengths and passion through projects and hands-on activities. In 2019, the club offered a host of judiciously selected projects. *Primary is an introductory project where five- to eight-year-olds learn to be independent and express themselves. Projects like *Public Speaking and *Puppetry allow kids to shed inhibitions and express themselves and their ideas, thereby building confidence and self-esteem. Art projects like *Coffee Painting, *Stuffed Animals, *Cross Stitch, *Photography and *Baking not only teach kids new techniques, safe use of tools, and creativity, but also provide them an opportunity to showcase their handiwork, thus developing a sense of achievement and pride. Life skills projects like *Web Programming was also introduced. Giving back to the Dublin Community: Activities designed, and projects offered by 4-H chapter inculcate and emphasize the *Dublin Integrity in Action characteristics in every member who thus becomes an ambassador of Dublin. Diversity of the club members reflects the rich and diverse culture of Dublin to the rest of the world. Dublin 4-H kids continue to contribute to the community by organizing and participating in activities like: *Food bank – Safeway Feed the Need drive; Kids Against Hunger; Coat Drive offering support for the homeless in and around Dublin; *Red Ribbon Week to raise awareness among school kids against use of drugs; *Goodie bags and cards to two different platoons of military; and taking part in *Dublin Pride volunteering in cleaning Dublin school gardens and parks. Apart from regularly volunteering and competing in the Alameda County Fair, Dublin 4-H kids participate in county and statewide competitions winning prizes and accolades thereby bringing recognition and pride to Dublin. The value and impact of 4-H, not only in this country, but over the world, can be realized through some of its alumni: President Jimmy Carter, Vice President Al Gore, Jacqueline Kennedy, General Hugh Shelton, Julia Roberts, David Letterman, Nobel laureates George Beadle and Daniel McFadden; and the list goes on. There could well be a name from Dublin on the list someday.