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Letter of Support for Maureen Handwerker and InsightAble Puzzles

October 21, 2026

To Whom It May Concern,

I am pleased to offer this letter of support for Maureen Handwerker and her innovative work developing InsightAble Puzzles. As a tactile art instructor at the Colorado Center for the Blind, I have worked amid Maureen's growth since 2022. Her dedication to creating accessible, engaging, and meaningful recreational experiences for individuals with blindness and low vision is infectious.

Over the past four years, Maureen has regularly visited my tactile art classroom, bringing prototypes of her 3D-printed puzzles for students to explore, evaluate, and critique. What began as an opportunity to gather feedback has blossomed into a wonderful friendship rooted in mutual respect, creativity, and a shared commitment to accessibility. My students represent a wide range of ages, backgrounds, visual experiences, and tactile abilities, providing Maureen with diverse perspectives that have helped inform the continued development of her puzzles.

What I appreciate most about Maureen is her willingness to listen. She does not approach accessibility as a problem she has already solved, but rather as an ongoing process that benefits from the lived experiences of those who will ultimately use her creations. She asks thoughtful questions, welcomes constructive criticism, and returns with new designs that reflect the feedback she receives. This iterative process demonstrates not only her technical creativity but also her genuine respect for the blind community.

As an instructor, I recognize the importance of developing tactile literacy, spatial awareness, problem-solving skills, and confidence through hands-on exploration. InsightAble Puzzles offers opportunities to exercise these skills while also providing something equally important: recreation, enjoyment, and the satisfaction of completing a challenge independently. Too often, accessibility is framed solely around meeting essential needs, overlooking the importance of play, curiosity, and personal accomplishment in creating a fulfilling life.

Beyond the puzzles themselves, Maureen's collaboration with my students has given them an opportunity to recognize the value of their own experiences and perspectives. Their feedback does not simply inform a classroom activity; it contributes directly to the development of products intended to benefit the broader blind community. This is an important example of what meaningful inclusion can look like when people with disabilities are invited to participate in the design process rather than simply receive its outcomes.

I wholeheartedly support Maureen and the continued development of InsightAble Puzzles. Her creativity, persistence, and commitment to community-informed design reflect the kind of innovation that can make a lasting difference in accessibility and inclusive recreation. I look forward to continuing our collaboration and seeing how her work evolves.

Sincerely,

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Tactile Art Instructor
Colorado Center for the Blind