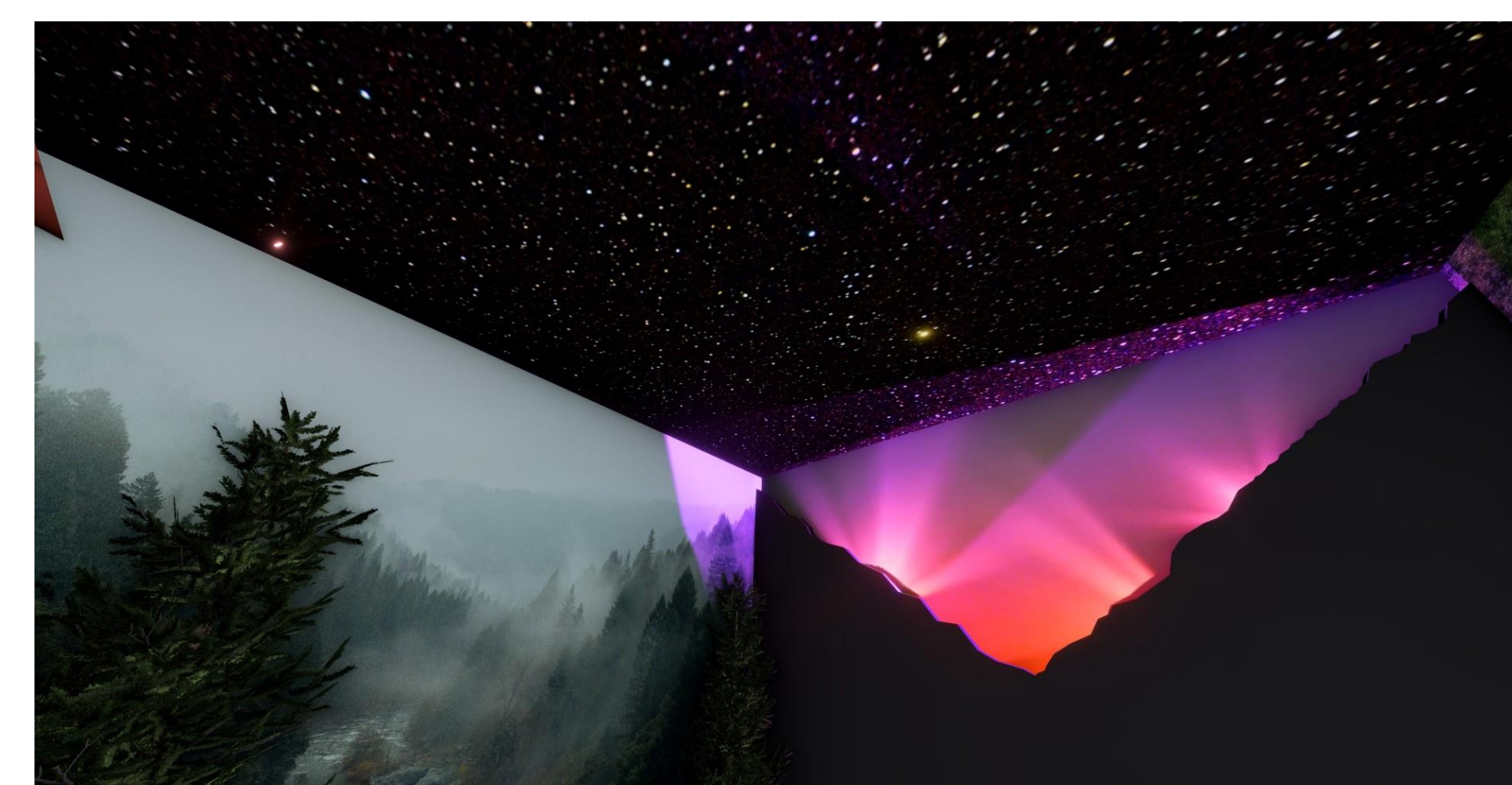


Abstract

Abstract: What makes up a sensory room? Sensory rooms were created for people with sensory issues (primarily found in the autistic community.) The rooms have since proved to help not only people with disabilities, but a wide range of people who enter the room for any amount of time. Sensory issues can range from being under-responsive (hyposensitivity), over-responsive (hypersensitivity), or craving (sensory seeking). Our recommendation for design is to create a nature-like environment using mountains, forest trees, and stargazing. It would also be beneficial to have thermal control elements. Along with that, we also propose that there should be heated blankets or weighted pillows. One wall will replicate the outside of a log cabin and provide rocking chairs as a seating option to bring students to a calming environment. As their session continues, the lights will be programmed to get darker while the attention is being directed upwards towards the idea of stargazing. The sounds of nature are becoming more prominent while they look at the indoor waterfall wall. They can't help but be immersed in the environment around them. Temperatures will slightly change as the sun goes down and the sunset will be occurring on the mountain wall via projector so different sunsets can be changed out over time. There is a universal love for sunsets that makes people see a different perspective.

Research Question

The whole start to this project and interest in research was because the Office of Disability and Accommodation Support reached out to the interior design program asking to design a sensory room. The question was asked, "What would a college sensory room consist of?" Through use of the databases offered at the Jerry Falwell Library, I made up a concept design animation with renderings.



ANIMATION VIDEO



Scan me!

Conclusion

This project is a proposed design made from research on sensory issues specifically

Conclusions

I have shown that it is wise to create a darker room with more dim, deeper lighting. Along with making sure all items in the room are soft and safe. By adding real-life elements, a student is able to think more realistically, but also relax.

A variety of different textures are intricate in a room like this.

Methods

Through use of Sketchup and Lumion, a rendered space was created to further implement the findings from research on sensory rooms and sensory issues. All rendered images are original work from myself

Future Work

1. Determine why universities do not have sensory rooms.
2. Test this space with actual students.
3. Distinguish specific changes in design and needs of students.
4. Begin the actual process of building a sensory room at Liberty University with the hopes of being able to have multiple different rooms that students are able to reserve.

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