

Parenting Media Association
2023 Design and Editorial Awards Program

EDITORIAL

E1 - Cover lines - [*Category was removed after 2021 contest*]

E2 - Headlines - [*Category was removed after 2021 contest*]

E3 - Column: Publisher's/Editor's Note

SMALL

Bronze: *Southwest Ohio Parent Magazine*; “Letter from the Editor”; Nicole Sipe, editor, Katie Clark, associate publisher

The editor’s column about her child’s reckoning with turning 11 — and losing the innocence of childhood — touched an emotional vein. The story was bittersweet in the way that stories about parenting often are, but this was uniquely told through the lens of the kids’ menu. In the other column, the editor expressed the evolution of her family’s relationship with video games, which is relevant to many parents.

Silver: *MetroFamily Magazine*; “Letter from the Editor”; Erin Page, managing editor

The columns in this entry allowed the writer to share some vulnerability about her identity as a parent and a professional, which many parents struggle with. The column about imposter syndrome was interestingly filtered through the lens of her daughter’s perspective, a viewpoint that was refreshingly earnest in the way of children. The column about resetting expectations around production levels provided a payoff for the reader when the idea of putting in B+ work came back around regarding parenting advice. Both columns helpfully explored universal ideas of parenting.

Gold: *Hood Magazine*; “Publisher’s Notes”; Steff Holtrop, president & publisher, Miranda Ochocki, editor

These columns from the publisher are exemplary of editor’s letters: thematic, personal, and explicit about the publication’s value to readers. The writer did an excellent job balancing the need to share vulnerability about her own family and connect the column back to her readership — especially by offering resources and content to address the discussed issues. The writer made the magazine’s content sound relevant, enticing and helpful. In short-and-sweet packages, the columns were easy to read.

LARGE

Bronze: *Nashville Parent*; “Day by Day”; Susan Day, editor, Michael Aldrich, managing editor

The writer spins easy stories to follow in both columns. The first focused on the complicated context around modern schooling and supported families’ ability to self-determine. The second column was about the trend of scheduled labor inductions. The writer supported both ideas through research and provided appropriate context for each perspective.

Silver: *Nashville Parent*; “Dad Beat”; Michael Aldrich, managing editor, Susan Day, editor

Each column extrapolated greater themes from specific examples. In the first column, the writer explores a parents' flexibility through the lens of playing with Playdough. The second column uses an overheard moment in a Walmart parking lot as a moment of parenting clarity: Let kids be weird. Both columns embrace similar thematic elements of letting kids play and explore, so that the perspective of the writer is clear and developed across columns.

Gold: *TulsaKids*; “Editor’s Note”; Betty Casey, associate publisher and editor-in-chief

These columns focus on the power of stories. In the first column, the writer tells the tale of taking care of her elderly mother after a fall. With humor and thoughtfulness, the column tackles the difficult subject of showing love to people we care for. The included photo of the handmade sign for her mother provides a personal touch. The second column explores the importance of sharing stories and conversations between parent and child. Each column allows the thematic elements to develop in storytelling, anecdotes and supporting details. Both columns connect the reader to what the publication offers.

E4 - Briefs/Short Stuff

SMALL

No Bronze award.

Silver: *Washington Parent*; “Mindful Parenting”; Joy Rains, columnist, Jenny Heinbaugh, editor

This entry provides a parent’s monthly moment of Zen, reminding them of the importance of sitting in the moment, taking a breath and holding on to gratitude.

Gold: *Southwest Ohio Parent Magazine*; “News & Notes”; Nicole Sipe, Katie Clark

Did you know that the average child goes through 720 crayons by the time they’re 10 years old? Or that Cincinnati is the unofficial home of cornhole, that game played with sand bags? That’s the kind of cool trivia the readers learn here, getting tips and tricks for how to spend time with the kids. This feature is a whimsical mix of news and trivia.

LARGE

Bronze: *Indy’s Child*; “News & Notes”; Nicole Sipe, Katie Clark

A series of fun facts and descriptions of two family-friendly activities combine each month to offer utility month, either to plan family activities — or to serve as the set up for a dad joke!

Silver: *Baton Rouge Parents Magazine*; “Community”; Amy Foreman, Amanda Miller, Emily Drez, Sara Batrous, Anthony Bui

The community is well covered in this multi-page section devoted to reporting the need-to-know stories for parents and families throughout the region. From the opening of a new urgent care center to visits with Santa Claus, to new habitats at the zoo, readers get important news in a series of well-written and easily digestible briefs.

Gold: *Kansas City Parent*; “5 Things We Love Right Now”; Michael Gimotty, Kim Tappan, Lauri Clapper, Margaret Sarver

This monthly feature ties together the best of the region. The writer excels in connecting with the audience, using the first person to communicate the value of each of the items featured. It's also notable how the mix offers options that are attainable and accessible to families of different abilities and financial means.

E5 - Calendar of Events

SMALL

Bronze: *Southwest Ohio Parent Magazine*; “Things to Do”; Nicole Sipe, Katie Clark

The editors have compiled a great utility for readers, collecting a series of diverse activities for families of all ages and abilities to enjoy. Entries note appropriate ages for events or special considerations to keep in mind.

Silver: *Long Island Family*; “Family Calendar”; Shara Levine

This entry stands out for its unique organization, listing events chronologically by location. This helps readers find events in places to which they're willing and able to travel.

Gold: *Cincinnati Family Magazine*; “Things to Do”; Susan Day, editorial director, Amanda Hayward, editor, Amanda Ciani, associate editor

This robust collection of calendar entries has something for everyone with its dozens upon dozens of entries. The organization of events by day – throughout the month – makes it easy to find something to do when the reader is at loss, and needs to find something that will work that day. Entries are easy to locate, provide adequate descriptions, addresses, phone numbers, websites, and hours of operation.

LARGE

Bronze: *Atlanta Parent*; “Family Fun Guide”; Emily Webb

Fairs, festivals and fun, this collection of events provides a comprehensive listing of activities for the whole family in Atlanta and beyond. This publication categorizes its listings not by date but by type of activity. The organization makes it easy to find attractions and events that match family members' interests.

Silver: *Nashville Parent*; “Things to Do”; Michael Aldrich, managing editor

This entry does a great job using file art to illustrate and inform. The vivid, detailed writing gives readers an idea beforehand of what they can expect to see, hear, and experience at each event.

Gold: *TulsaKids*; “Calendar”; Tara Rittler

This publication's calendar offers a variety of events, chock full of detail and with great organization that calls attention to special collections of listings such as school open houses or vaccination clinics.

E6 – Column: Reviews - [Category was removed after 2017 contest]

E7 - Column: Child Development & Parenting Issues

SMALL

Bronze: *Monterey Bay Parent*; “Father’s Day”; Rob Weisskirch, Andrea Breznay

Why kids lie is asked and answered with careful, thoughtful and researched strategies for addressing the challenge. And there are well deserved reminders in praise of mothers and fathers.

Silver: *Washington Parent*; “Ages & Stages”; Maureen McElroy, LCMFT, Jenny Heinbaugh Hamrick, Bridget Edwards

The idea of discussing race and racism with children can stir up a lot of differing viewpoints. But here the author delivers the why and how to begin to help youngsters as they start to notice differences in their peers and the way adults respond. The columns also tackle the impact of difficult adult behaviors, such as bad-mouthing an ex-partner in front of the kids.

Gold: *Baltimore’s Child*; “Expert Advice”; Cheryl Maguire, Eleanor Linafelt

This entry provides expert advice to parents raising children with learning disabilities. The guidance includes how to ask the right questions, model the appropriate behavior, and adapt various environments to better suit the child.

LARGE

No Bronze award.

Silver: *TulsaKids*; “Tweens & Teens”; Julie Wenger Watson

Empowering young people is a common thread in these columns. The author combines experience and solid interviews with experts. One interview drew out the obvious but challenging call to listen: “... in their teenage years, in their mind, if your lips are moving, it’s a lecture” (not advice). Each column includes a handful of useful tips and ideas for navigating a difficult relationship.

Gold: *TulsaKids*; “Babies & Toddlers”; Alicia Kobilnyk

Creativity and playfulness are the touchstone elements of this mother-of-three columnist. While her personal experience is authentic and valuable, she also engages with readers for successful parenting techniques, and then shares them with readers.

E8 - Column: Family Matters

SMALL

Bronze: *Baltimore’s Child*; “B’More Healthy”; Heather Ross, Rudy Malcom

These health columns are both authoritative as well as easy to understand. Whether the topic is childhood diabetes, or the truth on vaping, the writing offers information as well as insight to help parents navigate the situation.

Silver: *Cincinnati Family Magazine*; “Health”; Susan Day, editorial director, Amanda Hayward, editor and writer

These columns provide information that reassures, not just explains. Holidays are stressful for kids, and a column on why festive family occasions also provoke meltdowns no

doubt was a timely lifeline to many families. Another on how to tell if your child has a healthy heart was also helpful to parents worried about the effect of vaccines.

Gold: *MetroFamily Magazine*; “Family Mental Wellness”; Erin Page and Pam McKeown, writers

Oklahoma, like many states, has high rates of substance use, and these columns address how families can deal with this life-changing issue. First, it confronts reality – alcohol still tops the list as an abused substance and families should talk about its use. Another column looks at what resources are available to moms who use substances like opioids, and how they can connect to support services after they give birth. Both columns offer help without judgment.

LARGE

No Bronze or Silver award.

Gold: *TulsaKids*; “School Age”; Dr. Tamecca Rogers

This selection of columns promote diversity in the classroom but do more than preach. One column suggests specific actions to make diverse students feel at home in the classroom, while the second gives information on an important footnote in Oklahoma history – the Cherokee Freedmen. The writing is easy to read and delivers lots of helpful information.

E9 - Column: Family Fun

SMALL

Bronze: *Baltimore’s Child*; “Family Fun”; Jillian Diamond, Heather Ross

This entry showed tight and bright writing in each of the information-packed paragraphs. Each page is covered in a great variety of options that showcase the publication’s connection with both its audience and the larger community.

Silver: *Washington Parent*; “In Our Own Backyard”; Amanda Socci, Jenny Heinbaugh Hamrick, editor

This entry is a great example of how regular features such as these can both inform about current events and educate readers at the same time. The examples were filled with details that were both useful for attendance and planning purposes, but also for informational and education purposed. The articles are a good read just for the fact-filled writing alone.

Gold: *MetroFamily Magazine*; “Local Family Fun”; Lindsay Cuomo, Christina Mushi-Brunt, Erin Page, Stacy Noakes

This column provides a fresh look at the places and institutions that have been community staples and offers families different ways to connect to one another and the broader community. It relies on the staple of family favorites, but also invites people to see anew places that could be easily overlooked.

LARGE

Bronze: *Brooklyn Family*; “Family Day Out”; Kaitlyn Riggio, Jana Beauchamp

These columns are filled with good information on activities that families can enjoy within several budget ranges. Options are included that work across age groups and interests so everyone will be pleased with a family day out around town.

Silver: *Tulsa Kids*; “Get Cooking”; Natalie Mikles

The conversational writing still retains an authoritative air from a writer who knows the subject well. Each selection was filled with practical advice for parents, with details and activities divided by age groups and ability level. This family activity doesn’t just use cooking as way to bond or pass down a recipe; it also addresses reading and math, too, in smart ways.

Gold: *Nashville Parent*; “Mom Report”; Kylie Ebbut, writer; Michael Aldrich, managing editor; Susan Day, editor; Rebecca Bright, writer

This column allows writers to speak with authority. And, it’s such a brilliant way to provide what parents seek: a first-hand recommendation about a community event or locale. The piece appeals to a range of parents and families seeking fun activities that are already tested and tried.

E10 - Column: Humor

No awards.

E11 – Travel Feature

SMALL

Bronze: *Chesapeake Family Life*; “The City of Bridges”; Nancy Parode, Donna Jefferson

This guide to the city of Pittsburgh introduces the reader to a number of unexpected treasures, including a top-notch children’s museum, riverboat tours of the city’s steel-making past and an abundance of bridges. The skillfully researched, information-rich story does readers the favor of putting one more family-friendly place on their list.

Silver: *L.A. Parent*; “Postcards from Europe”; Cassandra Lane, Elena Epstein, Edwin Alpanian

This is an engaging first-person account of traveling to Europe as a family, with a wealth of useful tips to pass along to readers. The good advice covers juggling multiple bags, finding well-stocked grocery stores, and navigating public transportation in major cities. Examples of child-friendly attractions are a bonus, including the best playground in Paris. It is altogether a worthwhile read.

Gold: *MetroFamily Magazine*; “Under the Radar”; Debbie Murnan, Erin Page

This is a charming piece with a thoroughly engaging premise — visiting every state park in Oklahoma in the space of one year. The writing is lively with plenty of details and lots of personality, and the writer provides all the tools needed to replicate the journey, adding up to a terrific example of smart travel journalism.

LARGE

No Bronze award.

Silver: *ParentMap*; “City Lit”; JiaYing Grygiel

Who knew so many children’s books could be revisited by touring their places of origin in New York? From The Plaza Hotel where “Eloise” lived with her nanny, dog and turtle, to the Upper East Side neighborhood where “Harriet the Spy” operated, this is a welcome guide for any family visit to the city.

Gold: *ParentMap*; “Tea for Two”; Natasha Dillinger

What a sweet idea for a story, and one that is masterfully crafted by a writer who is completely familiar with the landscape. A classic tea for two in a lovely spot has proved to be an ideal place for mother-daughter conversation, and the writer capitalizes on the depth of her knowledge by providing an inside look at the possibilities. Everything is covered here, from hours and cost to house specialties and added attractions — making the temptation almost irresistible.

E12 – Personal Essay

SMALL

Bronze: *Baltimore's Child*; “Passion or Obsession?”; Jeffrey Carey, columnist

Based on his experiences in a childhood peppered with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) incidents, this author generously relays those emotions along with examples of joy and crushing meltdowns. The ability to focus deeply and persistently, instead of being seen as a difference, could be valued as a “spectrum superpower.” His reflections also offer step-by-step tips for parents of children with ASD to help them know what to expect, to best cope, and to help the child learn that their obsession is not the only topic in the world.

Silver: *Hood Magazine*; “Finding Joy in Your New Reality”; Tristin Pilenis, columnist, Miranda Ochocki

Impending doom becomes clear in the lede to this essay: “The warm May day started like any other” You just know what follows is not going to be good news. It’s not, but this mother relates to others how to “accept your reality” through such a traumatic change. Dealing with grief, changes in responsibilities and relationships and the challenges of parenting are examined as well as ways to move on. From the dire situation to the finish filled with a loving future, this essay relays emotional acceptance and growth.

Gold: *L.A. Parent*; “Violin Visions”; Lisbeth Coiman, performer, author, poet, columnist, Cassandra Lane and Elena Epstein

Dream on and on and on, this essay commands, but don’t be too disappointed if you don’t get what you want from your children. It’s not your fame and glory at stake. Instead, treasure what you get. The lessons are conveyed in amusing anecdotes — practicing the violin in the bathroom because it sounds better, quitting violin lessons after an unasked-for haircut, French horn lessons instead of the violin, but all the while keeping the violin for its sentimental value. The best lesson, though, wasn’t about music, but about parenting and raising two honorable men and telling a story filled with sweet remembrances.

LARGE

Bronze: *New York Family*; “Things You May Not Know About That Special Needs Parent”; Donna Duarte-Ladd, columnist

In spreading the word about the need to be understanding and compassionate toward children with special needs, the writer presents solid arguments and provides easily followed tips for others. The main solution is to follow the response of young children who engage fully and gently when they meet youngsters with autism. The column is a strong cry out to people of every age to do the same.

Silver: *TulsaKids*; “Finding Flowers in the Weeds”; Alicia Kobilnyk, early childhood educator

Filled with heart-breaking news amid moments of joy and hope and discovery, this essay takes readers on a truly emotional path. Decisions to share early news of a pregnancy, coping with the news of a miscarriage, and the ever sweet story of selecting Tara as the name for the lost baby are fully explored and reflected upon in crisp writing.

Gold: *ParentMap*; “9 Things Breast Cancer Taught Me About Raising Teens”; Nikki McCoy, columnist

“One hell of a journey” was the phrase used by the writer to describe her travels through cancer diagnosis, treatment and recovery, but the phrase much more describes a family’s transformation. There were rules that were never to be broken; now, forget about them. Micro-managing a household is out of the picture. Step by step, no-no’s by no-no’s, things changed. Children went from being children to almost adults – sharing, caring, responsible. It’s beautifully written with pitch-perfect pacing, examples, facts, praises and emotional reflections.

E13 - Profile

SMALL

Bronze: *Washington Family*; “My Song Is My Superpower”; Emily Rose Barr

This profile gives good insight into the main character while putting her story in the context of her work with students.

Silver: *Kern County Family Magazine*; “Hello, Happy Determined Mama”; LJ Radon, Callie Collins, Ginger Lynch

The writer does a nice job of telling her story while integrating the complex issues related to foster care.

Gold: *MetroFamily Magazine*; “The Antithesis of Violence: Love and Nice – Henry Rice’s Story”; Erin Page

This profile tackles an important issue. The story both explains the subject’s evolving perspective and lets the reader see the person behind the issue.

LARGE

No Bronze award.

Silver: *Bay Area Parent*; “Alphabet Rockers”; Teresa Mills-Faraudo, Jill Wolfson

This piece provides a nice, entertaining profile of the members of a local musical group that made it big.

Gold: *Atlanta Parent*; “Beyond the Label”; Tali Benjamin

These short, effective snapshots of multiple kids with neurodevelopmental disorders give insight and humanity to the diagnoses.

E14 - Q&A Interview

SMALL

Bronze: *MetroFamily Magazine*; “Redefining Student Success”; Erin Page, managing editor

The strong lede gets readers’ attention with its counterintuitive proposal for parents. The interview does an effective job of explaining the rationale behind encouraging children to be “B+ students” and is solidly grounded in the interviewee’s personal and professional experience.

Silver: *Hood Magazine*; “5 Mental Health Questions with a School Counselor”; Miranda Ochocki, editor

This interview addresses a topic that is top of mind for parents, and it does so with relevant, first-hand expertise from a professional in the field. There is also actionable advice for parents worried about their child’s mental health, presented in an even-handed and reasonable tone.

Gold: *Chesapeake Family Life*; “Students Speak: Maryland high schoolers' POV on violence in schools”; Keegan Cardoza, student

With a gripping lede and moving, personal experiences from students, this piece brings the salient and pressing issue of violence in schools to bear in a unique way. Hearing from students directly as they share their distressingly common run-ins with threats of violence provides a compelling first-hand narrative that higher level reporting or analysis of the issue would struggle to convey.

LARGE

No Bronze award.

Silver: *Bay Area Parent*; “No Stopping Us Now”; Teresa Mills-Faraudo, associate editor

This interview features a really compelling and interesting subject, who succinctly but effectively conveys an insider perspective on being an important historical agent of change. The interview affords space for specific and detailed memories that enable readers to connect in a unique way with the early struggle for girls sports in schools.

Gold: *TulsaKids*; “Ifaseyi & Onifade: Mom & Son Cooking Duo Open New Shop”; Nancy A. Moore, columnist

The role of the kitchen in the intimate relationship between a mother and her son is at the heart of this in-depth interview. The article covers a wide range of topics, from parenting to entrepreneurship, all the while staying grounded in the generational love of cooking.

E15 - Investigative Feature - [Category was removed after 2021 contest]

E16 - News Feature

SMALL

Bronze: *L.A. Parent*; “Addressing Youth Violence”; Sehba Sarwar, Cassandra Lane, Elena Epstein, Edwin Alpanian

This thoughtful essay about youth violence is backed by solid reporting and telling statistics.

Silver: *Washington Parent*; “Attending Protests With Kids”; Tiasia Saunders, reporter; Jenny Heinbaugh Hamrick, editor

This feature about involving kids in protests provides a smart approach to a timely topic. The article is filled with very practical advice that a parent can use when making the decision for themselves.

Gold: *Neopolitan Family*; “Putting Holocaust Education to the Test”; Andrea Stetson, Stacy Nicolau, Leigh Ann Newman

Including the voice of a young person who has been the target of antisemitism adds a lot of power to this feature that overall is well reported and well written.

LARGE

Bronze: *Atlanta Parent*; “Autism Changes the Way Kids See the World”; Emily Webb

The writer does a good job of giving insight into what it means to have an autistic child. The article helps parents understand how their children perceive things.

Silver: *Atlanta Parent*; “Online Schools: A Virtual Reality”; Emil Webb

A smart look at a growing trend, this article about online learning includes a good mix of voices and perspectives.

Gold: *DFW Child*; “When Foods Can Kill”; Amanda Collins Bernier

A lead that shocks the reader provides a gripping entry into this well-written story. The piece also provides plenty of strong context and actionable advice.

E17 - Non-Traditional Story Form

SMALL

Bronze: *Nola Family Magazine*; “8 Rainy Day Science Experiments”; Amanda Miller, Amy Foreman

This listicle of homemade science experiments gives parents a handy guide for days when they have to entertain kids at home. The projects are easy to do, and the writing clearly explains what to do.

Silver: *MetroFamily Magazine*; “More Magic, Less Stuff”; Erin Page, Lindsay Cuomo, Stacy Noakes

This wide-ranging roundup of experiential gift ideas includes good suggestions, which are organized by interest area and type of recipient. The text descriptions include lots of helpful details. Photos of the activities also assist in the storytelling.

Gold: *PDX Parent*; “Explore Portland Like a Tourist”; Denise Castañon, Tiffany Hill, Meg Asby

This feature offers an impressive guide to activities and attractions that make Portland special. The organization of material is particularly noteworthy, with each essential stop for visitors paired with lesser-known alternative local favorites. Photos from all the different locations help communicate what’s in store for those who might go there.

LARGE

Bronze: *Baton Rouge Parents Magazine*; “4 Tips to Avoid Crushing Your Budget This Holiday Season”; Austria Cohn, Amy Foreman, Amanda Miller

Tips from two expert sources related to holiday spending are clearly organized and explained in a numbered listicle. The succinct writing is peppered with direct quotes that bring the advice to life.

Silver: *Atlanta Parent*; “Recycling: Do It Right”; Emily Webb

This roundup of information related to recycling includes helpful background, statistics and tips provided by a local expert. Even readers familiar with the topic are likely to learn something new.

Gold: *Atlanta Parent*; “Every Day STEAM Is At Play”; Emily Webb

This clever guide provides parents with a wide array of conversation starters and activities to get kids thinking about how academic subjects connect with the real world. The opening layout’s arrangement of copy blocks around the central illustration further underscores the connections mentioned in the text.

E18 - Service Feature

SMALL

Bronze: *MetroFamily Magazine*; “Talking to Kids about Gender Diversity”; Dr. Ronneal Mathews, Erin Page, Emiley Bainbridge, Lindsay Cuomo

Organized as a series of questions, this piece is a wonderful resource for parents. With the help of an expert, it explores basic terms, then gives parents advice about how to react in real-life situations they might encounter. Along with a list of resources to learn more, it’s a useful and timely reference.

Silver: *Colorado Parent*; “How to Avoid Raising an Entitled Child”; Austria Cohn, Amy Foreman, Amanda Miller

This feature hits on a topic that many parents worry about and provides useful and actionable advice, while also striking an understanding tone about the difficulties of saying “No” to our children. Expert sources, well-organized reporting, and engaging writing make this a piece worth bookmarking for when parents need it.

Gold: *L.A. Parent*; “Immerse in Public Art”; Cassandra Lane, Elena Epstein, Edwin Albanian

The writer quickly establishes their background and expertise in this topic, then leads readers on a wonderful tour of various public art installations throughout Los Angeles. The feature is packed with reporting about each piece’s history and significance, and all the information parents need to hop in the car for a day – or more – of art adventures.

LARGE

Bronze: *ParentMap*; “Stop What You’re Doing and Start Supporting Your Child’s School Library”; Lindsay Zielinski

From the knowledgeable perspective of a librarian, this story first establishes the importance and impact of school libraries, and then provides actionable ideas for how to support them. Personal anecdotes paired with advice make this a feature that’s both useful and engaging.

Silver: *Atlanta Parent*; “Suspecting Dyslexia: What Are the Next Steps?”; Emily Webb

A robust service feature, this piece is packed with the information parents need to understand dyslexia in children and to know what they can do. Details about testing and advocating for a child are supplemented with a helpful list of signs by age, educational resources and important things to know about Georgia-specific laws.

Gold: *New York Family*; “New York Family’s Ultimate Guide to Birdwatching”; Barbara Russo

This really is the ultimate guide for birdwatching families in New York. After setting up why to go birdwatching, the writer delves into a borough-by-borough guide of where to see birds and what might be seen in different seasons. The piece is a delight, with breezy and informative writing and wonderful bird illustrations.

E19 - General Feature Writing

SMALL

Bronze: *L.A. Parent*; “Plant Tats”; Michelle Dowd, writer, Cassandra Lane, Elena Epstein, Edwin Albanian

Men may have worn the first tattoos, but this group of women has found that inking their bodies with images of nature is a spiritual pursuit that centers their life. This tale unfolds as a personal journey and broadens to include the stories of other women who have used tattoos to redefine their lives.

Silver: *Colorado Parent*; “Pregnancy After Miscarriage”; Austria Cohn, writer; Amy Foreman and Amanda Miller

A straightforward approach to a situation that whips up a storm of conflicting feelings – getting pregnant again after losing a pregnancy. This article layers compassion and understanding of the issue on top of a solid medical foundation. It provides both advice and understanding for families undergoing this experience.

Gold: *Baltimore’s Child*; “A Tribute to Our Tributaries”; Darae Lyles

A feature on an extraordinary teen is transformed into a well-reported look at what it takes to launch a music festival that also supports the environment. Strong fact-finding and attention to detail gives this readable feature the heft of in-depth information.

LARGE

Bronze: *DFW Child*; “Lost in Motherhood”; Amanda Collins Bernier

A honest account of a common issue – how the status of motherhood can swallow your identity. This feature uses the power of description to convey information that is likely to spark serious self-reflection and conversation.

Silver: *Northeast Ohio Parent*; “Just Us”; Shana O’Malley-Smith

The story of a single mom’s open adoption dismisses with the fairy tale and talks about the reality of maintaining a relationship with the birth family. This frank and well-constructed story is informative as well as heart-warming, and a great guide for others considering fostering or adoption.

Gold: *Atlanta Parent*; “I Don’t Want to Share My Baby”; Amritha Alladi Joseph, writer, Tali Benjamin

A mother’s view of the heart-wrenching hours after giving birth, where the bustle of medical personnel and an eager family disrupt the necessary emotional bond to a new infant. This likely struck a chord with a lot of mothers who finally heard their own voice in this well-written piece about the sanctity of the birthing environment.

E20 – Special Series

SMALL

No Bronze award.

Silver: *Washington Parent*; “Children’s Mental Health Series”; Ashley Miller, MD, Jelena Kecmanovic, PhD, Date Alcamo, MS, LCMFT, Jenny Heinbaugh Hamrick

The language might appear hyperbolic at first, but the reporting in this three-part series supports there being a mental health crisis among adolescents. Written by doctors and licensed therapists, all three installments go beyond pithy quotes, offering concrete, actionable advice on how to spot the signs of mental distress and illness, how to talk to your children, and how to get help. This series is a must-read for anyone with young people in their lives.

Gold: *Chesapeake Family Life*; “Violence at Maryland Schools”; Donna Jefferson, Keegan Cardoza, Kerrigan Stern

Violence in schools affects students, teachers, administrators, families — and even members of the community who never once step foot in a school. That’s what makes his series so important. Along with incorporating advice from mental health professionals and data to communicate the extent of the problem, editors also had a 16-year-old reporter gather insight from peers. The resulting interview adds raw, emotional – and brutally honest – perspective from students.

LARGE

No Bronze or Silver award.

Gold: *Northeast Ohio Parent*; “Body Positivity Series”; Georgia Lattas

This series defines the concept of body positivity and challenges adults to consider how their behaviors and language can influence the children in their sphere. The material is not only well researched and well reported, but it also shows bravery by holding up a mirror to the ways that some parents might be inadvertently sabotaging their children’s physical and mental health.

E21 – Special Section Within a Publication

SMALL

Bronze: *L.A. Parent*; “Family Travel”; Cassandra Lane, Elena Epstein, Edwin Alpanian

This package about the restorative joy of travel shines thanks to stories that share first-person experiences, including tips and tricks for family travel. The anchor story comes from a broadcast reporter who spent several months traveling with her family through Europe. Other stories include spotlights on travel locations such as Vancouver and Vail. The writing in these pieces are descriptive and informative, with lots of actionable insights included along the way.

Silver: *Neapolitan Family*; “Hurricane Ian Devastates Southwest Florida”; Stacy Nicolau, Leigh Ann Newman, Lisette Morales, Anna Snyder, Andrea Stetson

The impact of Hurricane Ian on Southwest Florida is ever-present in the pages of this special section. The reader can feel the emotion behind each photo and story. The opening spread is a striking image of a locally known pier that was destroyed by the hurricane. The section moves into an emotive photo story, followed by stories about community aid, shared connections and the effect of the devastation on kids. Together, the elements paint an poignant picture of a community restoring itself. In each component, there is a strong-running theme of connection and sharing the burden of grief alongside the hope of recovery.

Gold: *Baltimore’s Child*; “B’More Inclusive”; Baltimore’s Child Staff, Lindsay Vanasdalan, Heather Ross, Cheryl Maguire

This special section encompasses an enticing balance of feature stories and reader service. It hits the ground running with a helpful feature story on Ehlers-Danlos Syndrome, followed by a story on public vs. private education for special needs and a story on ADHD in teens. The back of the package is comprised of clever reader-service resources, including the ABCs of special needs. The tear-away question sheet is a valuable and crafty resource for parents when it comes to camps and schools. Finally, a glossary of terms, ideas and resources rounds out the package. Throughout the special section, the writing was clear, balancing science-backed facts and jargon with illustrative examples and personal stories. The story formats were varied and engaging. Each package element highlights actionable insights parents can take, and the package felt true to its name in its inclusivity of topics to explore and strategies families can use.

LARGE

Bronze: *Atlanta Parent*; “Atlanta Baby”; Emily Webb, Tali Benjamin

This special section finds refreshing ways to tackle its subject. With clever storytelling — including a list of the most popular names in Atlanta and “Baby bits” with short-and-sweet tidbits — the section provides entertaining and informative material. The package starts off strong with a first-person account about enough personal time with a newborn, and proceeds

with stories that offer plenty of tips, insights and actionable advice. The writing is strong throughout, with plenty of voice paired with helpful information.

Silver: *New York Family*; “Special Needs Resource Guide”; Donna Duarte-Ladd

This cohesive special section found engaging angles within the broader topic. The stories are perceptive, including a story about horse therapy and another about how to support the siblings of a special needs child. The most moving story is a first-person account of being a parent of a special needs child. An engaging Q&A story features two leaders of a local organization geared toward children with learning disabilities. The section concludes with a directory of local resources for parents. Throughout the stories, the writing is clear and direct, making it easy for parents to get the most out of the information.

Gold: *Atlanta Parent*; “We Know Schools: Atlanta’s Best Guide to Education”; Emily Webb, Tali Benjamin

This comprehensive and in-depth guide to schools is a heavyweight, clocking in at about 50 pages. Even with a large volume of information, the section does not feel overwhelming to navigate. Story topics include learn-by-play preschools, executive function coaches for kids, school choice, developing leadership skills in children and a delightful piece about the relevance of cursive. In addition to the stories, the package contains a variety of resources, including lists of public, private and language immersion schools. The community-focused nature of the special section roots the content in the magazine’s reader service area. The writing is crisp and engaging, with particularly strong display type.

E22 - Overall Writing

SMALL

No Bronze award.

Silver: *Washington Family*; staff

This publication gives readers a wide range of information in clear, understandable text with an emphasis on story craft. The writing is consistently deliberate and direct — no wasted words here. Just solid stories that serve readers well.

Gold: *L.A. Parent*; Cassandra Lane, Elena Epstein, Edwin Alpanian

The writing is so comfortable and easy to manage for busy readers that browsing through the magazine is definitely a pleasure. Interesting angles, compelling leads and inventive personal touches give both blurbs and stories a stylish edge.

LARGE

No Bronze award.

Silver: *Atlanta Parent*; Emily Webb, Mary Williams, Tali Benjamin, Liz White

Original story ideas, clear and concise department blurbs and smart pieces about travel, health, education and more align to make this publication a compelling, enjoyable read. Strong beginnings, precise language, charming anecdotes and a premium on careful editing make all the difference.

Gold: *Chicago Parent*; Alexis Bourkoulas, Kelly Buren, Tamara O’Shaughnessy

With a mix of serious and fun, and no hesitation to tackle tough topics like gun violence, it is clear that good writing is in this magazine’s DNA. Writers understand the power of pace and tone to drive the reader, and ample details make each story authoritative and satisfying. Overall, every word seems to be carefully chosen for the most impact.

DESIGN

D1 - Front Cover: Original Photo

SMALL

Bronze: *Washington Parent*; “July 2022”; Jane MacNealy, design, Brad Mitchell, photo

The child’s direct gaze and the colors pull in viewers. The green and blue palette creates a feeling of calm, allowing the pink to pop off the page. The lead tease work wells with the cover photograph, and all text is balanced around the subject.

Silver: *Metro Family Magazine*; “March/April 2023”; Stacy Noakes, Bridget Pipkin, Erin Page, Sarah Taylor

The message is clear, and the child appears delighted to be playing the DJ role. The photograph is beautifully lit, well-composed and technically excellent. Typography pulls from the colors in the photograph, and the LP theme is used for the lead tease background.

Gold: *Cincinnati Family Magazine*; “August 2022 – School Days!”; Susan Day, editorial director, Amanda Hayward, editor, Holly Burkholder, photographer

The composition of the cover photograph draws attention to the child’s eyes and smile, as well as the lead tease. The colorful buckets of supplies frame the child, add interest and keep focus on the subject and text. The hands complete the circular frame, with thoughtful body language and art direction.

LARGE

Bronze *Baton Rouge Parents Magazine*; “April 2023”; Amy Foreman, Grace Knox

What a sweet moment on this cover, with the child playing in the rain. The photographer left ample room for the teases and to see the rain in front of the grey background and the bridge. The yellow of the raingear draws focus to the subject and is reminiscent of a spring rain.

Silver *Nashville Parent*; “Take a Walk on the Arts Side”; Susan Day, editor, Michael Aldrich, managing editor, John Sherlock, photographer

The location in the iconic Ryman Auditorium and the child with the stomping cowboy boots are perfect choices for a cover about Nashville’s “arts side.” The subject appears to be “an original,” like the secondary tease says. While the off-center framing is unusual, the lead tease fits perfectly and leaves room for the child on the side.

Gold: *DFW Child*; “April/May 2023”; Cindy James, Gary Parson, Lauren Niebes

This spectacular cover does everything right. The colors say “spring” and support the lead tease about flowers. The typography is easy to read and placed to draw attention to the child. The photograph is beautiful, with the flower covering the subject’s mouth so attention is drawn up the page. Finally, it’s hard to quit staring at those piercing eyes.

D2 - Front Cover: Use of Stock Photo

SMALL

Bronze: *Colorado Parent*; “October/November 2022”; Amy Foreman

Playful children in fuzzy costumes fit the Halloween theme, and the expressions are endearing. The photograph is crisp, and the door adds a cool pop of color. The body language leads viewers to the lead tease.

Silver: *Staten Island Parent*; “August 2022”; Leah Mitch

The tease, “Fun,” certainly describes this cover, with complementary colors of blue and yellow and a simple yet effective photograph of a running child in an innertube. The boy leans to the left, steering viewers to the teases, and the diffused light from above throws attention on his happy face.

Gold: *Nola Family Magazine*; “June 2023”; Amy Foreman, Grace Knox

A beautifully composed and edited cover photograph shows a child at the beach without showing too much of the background. The reflection in the glasses hint at what else is in the area and add interest to the image. The slightly blown-out background helps the text pop off this delightful cover.

LARGE

Bronze: *Atlanta Parent*; “February 2023”; Sheri Taylor-Emery

Shades of pink and red are integrated into the cover in multiple ways, from the backdrop and clothing to the typography, masthead, and spot color. The subject’s eyes look toward the lead tease. The sweet expression prompts viewers to wonder what she is so happy about and to pick up the magazine.

Silver: *Nashville Parent*; “Lazy Days”; Susan Day, editor, Michael Aldrich, managing editor

This is what a lazy summer day should look like, hanging out on a paddle board. The centered composition allows for placement of text around the subjects, with the lead tease placed on the board. The paddle cuts a diagonal and adds interest.

Gold: *ParentMap*; “Winter Holiday Arts”; Amy Chinn

The two cover images are fantastic choices. The child echoes the ballerina’s arms and expression. They share similar white clothing and headdresses. The small caption below the insert photo says, “Let it Snow,” while the main photograph shows that snow. This is truly “Holiday Magic.”

D3 - Front Cover: Illustration

SMALL

No Bronze award.

Silver: *Chesapeake Family Life*; “June 2023”; Jenny Cardoza, Donna Jefferson

Pastel flowers indicate summer, while the lead tease lets viewers know what they will find inside. The size and placement of the type makes the flower illustration recede into the background, while still creating a pleasing cover.

Gold: *Washington Parent*; “November 2022 Arts Cover”; Jane MacNealy, designer,

Many colors, many notes and many dancing children make a cover that speaks to the lead story. The stage setting fits the topic of children's theaters. Each child is in their own world, adding to the quirkiness.

LARGE

No Bronze award.

Silver: *Nashville Parent*; "October 2022 'Things to Do' fall focus"; Susan Day, editor, Michael Aldrich, managing editor

As the child and cat wander down the rainbow-colored path toward a windmill, many "things to do" await them. The text alludes to fall festivals and events, but the open road leaves it up to the imagination. The gorgeous illustration will attract attention, but so will the mystery of the message.

Gold: *Atlanta Parent*; "October 2023"; Sheri Taylor-Emery

There is so much to see in this illustration, with each subject having their own personality and expressions. The colors and the costumes say Halloween, and the scene portrayed allows the imagination to roam. The white space is filled with sophisticated teases that pull from the colors in the illustration.

D4 - Table of Contents

SMALL

Bronze: *Kern County Family Magazine*; "June 2023"; LJ Radon, Ginger Lynch

There is nice utility and integration of the visual material on this layout. The large colored page number circles alongside the art elements help readers quickly navigate to stories that catch the eye. Good typographic hierarchy helps make the page attractive. The lead portrait image helps readers connect with the material and dive in.

Silver: *MetroFamily Magazine*; "May-June 2023"; Stacy Noakes, Erin Page, Sarah Taylor

The grouping of bright, captivating images pulls readers into the page, while the orderly list of stories on the right is easy to scan thanks to clean alignment and effective typography. Enlarged numbers nicely tie the photos to their related story teases. The overall look feels contemporary and well put together.

Gold: *Southwest Ohio Parent Magazine*; "December 2022"; Nicole Sipe, Katie Clark

The combination of well-cropped photo at the top, free-flowing illustrations and ample white space gives the page an attractive energy. The typography helps steer readers toward the big stories. The cover tease index at the bottom is a nice bonus.

LARGE

No Bronze or Silver award.

Gold: *Atlanta Parent*; "June 2023"; Sheri Taylor-Emery

Attractive and dynamic photos provide a good entry point to the page, especially the image of a child with a book at the top of the stack. The organization of the material makes it easy for readers to navigate.

D5 - Interior Illustration (Original) - *[Category was removed after 2022 contest]*

D6 - Interior Photography (Original)

SMALL

No Bronze or Silver award.

Gold: *Neapolitan Family*; “Hurricane Ivan Devastates Southwest Florida”; Lisette Morales, Stacy Nicolau, Leigh Ann Newman

Photographs tell the story of Hurricane Ivan’s destructive force. Image sizing and editing are excellent, as seen in the full spread image from the Wall of Hope. The photographer concentrated on children, appropriate for a parenting magazine. This is a great example of photographs being used to tell the main story.

LARGE

No Bronze or Silver award.

Gold: *New York Family*; “We Love Lucie”; Leah Mitch, Yumi Matsuo

Lucie’s personality is on full display, and the photographer does an amazing job of showing that in the photographs. There appears to be a collaboration between subject and photographer that makes these images even better. The design picks up the colors in the images, and the photographs are sized and cropped well.

D7 - Single-Page Design

SMALL

Bronze: *Washington Family*; “What to Ask”; Washington Family Staff

Bright and catchy colors and a design fully devoted to the concept make for an impressive page. The typography, graphic elements, and photography work in tandem to communicate and inform this noteworthy query.

Silver: *MetroFamily Magazine*; “Last Look, 5 Ways to Get Active This Winter”; Stacy Noakes, Erin Page

Covering five activities on one page is no easy task. The design and grid separates the content nicely, the graphics provide pops of visual interest, and the color palette and fonts help bring it all together to produce an extremely interesting page design.

Gold: *Southwest Ohio Parent Magazine*; “Best Farms to Pick Summer Fruit and Flowers”; Nicole Sipe, Katie Clark

With a clean and straight forward design this page succeeds at communicating a lot of information in a small amount of space. A variety of fonts work well together and are

reminiscent of the subject matter. The small accent graphics are informative and delightful while a lovely photo and a recipe sidebar round out a beautifully balanced and resourceful design.

LARGE

Bronze: *Baton Rouge Parents Magazine*; “All About Bones”; Amy Foreman, Melody Tauzin

An exciting photograph combined with a fun text wrap and a creative headline treatment composes a page that is both eye-catching and engaging. The design communicates the message and content in a clear and concise manner while delivering appealing visual context perfect for a one page story.

Silver: *TulsaKids*; “Gifts of Experience”; Annie Tyndall

A cute action shot and a design that interacts with and reflects an overall sense of merriment is both appealing and captivating. Font choices are simple and deliberate, allowing the colors and photography to pop. The page design is entertaining and gifts a lot in a small package.

Gold: *Indy's Child*; “7 Cool Places to Go Ice Skating”; Nicole Sipe, Katie Clark

The perfectly dreamy and elegant illustration grabs the attention of the reader and immediately communicates the narrative exceptionally well. The strong visual graphic is wonderfully complimented by simple and appropriate font choices and a design and organization that is both visually interesting and fun to read.

D8 - Department Design

SMALL

Bronze: *MetroKids*; “Book Marked”; Carl Weigel

The collection of small book cover images helps move the reader’s eye across the pages, while a dominant image of a child reading makes the design more engaging. The typography is clear and consistent from issue to issue.

Silver: *Baltimore's Child*; “DIY”; Lonna Koblick

Typography and color do a good job of highlighting each step of the way in these craft-focused pages. Photos of each finished project provide an essential component and are well integrated. Other decorative elements set the tone and give visual context.

Gold: *Southwest Ohio Parent Magazine*; “Fun & Wacky Calendar”; Nicole Sipe, Katie Clark

These pages provide a fun visual diversion. Imagery for various theme days is well selected, sized and positioned across each layout. Meanwhile the color palette does a nice job reflecting the season.

LARGE

No Bronze award.

Silver: *Atlanta Parent*; “Good Stuff!”; Sheri Taylor-Emery

These pages feature a great balance between text and visuals. Elements are arranged effectively to guide the reader’s eye around the layout. The small pops of blue on the item labels also assist the navigation.

Gold: *Atlanta Parent*; “For the Fridge”; Sheri Taylor-Emery

The poster-like format of this fun department makes a statement and provides a refreshing breathing space. Type and well-selected visuals are nicely integrated to turn each page into something readers might actually clip out and post somewhere.

D9 - Calendar of Events

SMALL

No Bronze award.

Silver: *Cincinnati Family Magazine*; “Things to Do”; Susan Day, Editorial Director, Amanda Hayward, Editor

Large images on the opening page beckon readers into the listings. Holiday-related events are cleverly indicated using cute icons. Typography is optimized for easy reading.

Gold: *MetroKids*; “Top 10 Family Events”; Steve Burke

Images and items pop off the pages, surrounded by ample white space and easy navigation cues utilizing large numbers. Color coordination is strong, typography is clear and legible. The bright and clean package is a joy to wander through. Art is relevant to the content and displayed well.

LARGE

Bronze: *Atlanta Parent*; “Family Fun Guide”; Sheri Taylor-Emery

The staff does a great job of finding and pairing pictures with many of the listings, creating a gallery effect among the pages. Color and bold type provide useful contrast throughout. The monthly Weird and Wacky Holidays to Celebrate list is well highlighted.

Silver: *Kansas City Parent*; “Calendar of Events”; Michael Gimotty, Kim Tappan, Lauri Clapper

The editors have created a striking package in its simplicity, consistency and extremely clean and readable typography. With hundreds of monthly listings, the package relies on clear labeling and organization to guide and inform readers.

Gold: *Nashville Parent*; “Things To Do”; Michael Aldrich, Managing Editor, Susan Day, Editor

The extensive listing of events kicks off with a “Best of” layout that pairs relevant images with brief descriptions, and across-the-bottom blurbs call attention to additional highlights throughout the listings. Typography is handled well, with modest but effective color, light and bold contrast, and line spacing that eases readability. Bold, red “FREE” is a quick and effective way to identify activities for everyone.

D10 – Feature Layout

SMALL

Bronze: *Neapolitan Family*; “Putting Holocaust Education to the Test”; Stacy Nicolau, Leigh Ann Newman

The dark background and symbolically tragic graphic elements provide an immediate sense of angst. Simple design choices do well to complement the powerful visual and allow readers to invest their full attention on a gripping historical event. Subsequent pages are packed with information, but the impact of the opening design lingers throughout.

Silver: *Southwest Ohio Parent Magazine*; “Welcome to the Family, Baby!”; Nicole Sipe, Katie Clark, Jennifer Thompson

The photography beautifully conveys a wholesome, pure and loving moment between a sister and her baby brother. Couple that with bold typography, a touch of color, subtle secondary text, and a fun and informative sidebar and you have a noteworthy design that delivers on both an educational and emotional level.

Gold: *PDX Parent*; “Your Family's Dream Staycation”; Tiffany Howard

Dreamy photography and dreamy typography combine for a design dream come true. The fitting color palette and type solutions carry a consistent theme of fun-loving things to do from start to finish. The photographs act as strong visual points of interest while providing fantastic visual context. Each page provides visual delight worthy of a family’s fantasy.

LARGE

Bronze: *Atlanta Parent*; “Every Day STEAM is at Play”; Sheri Taylor-Emery

Colorful vector art helps illustrate and educate ways that science, tech and math exist in our everyday lives. The type choices, use of negative space, and a fantastically applied sense of hierarchy provide an interactive experience that is both enjoyable and easy to read.

Silver: *Tulsa Kids*; “Tulsa: A Bike-Friendly Community”; Annie Tyndall

Action photography and splashy graphics and typography immediately deliver a sense of excitement and intrigue. The design takes the simple idea of getting dirty and applies it to each page and facet of the feature. Even sidebars are flawlessly incorporated into the design. The visual presentation helps inspire readers to get out and go for a ride.

Gold: *Northeast Ohio Parent*; “Happy Self”; design staff

A bright colored background paired with jovial portraits immediately elicits a smile. Incorporating accent graphics and visual representations of iconic smiley faces is smart, while also adding a conceptual level to the design. The type and design choices are both excellent, creative and instrumental in contributing to a happy and meaningful experience.

D11 - Special Section

SMALL

No Bronze award.

Silver: *Southwest Ohio Parent Magazine*; “Summer Fun Guide”; Nicole Sipe, Katie Clark

While there is a strong picture to lead off the Splash package, designers demonstrate a creative flair with page toppers for Festivals and Fun Restaurants. Ragged right text helps differentiate editorial content from advertising. The listings are clean and easy to read.

Gold: *Baltimore's Child*; "Summer Camp"; Lonna Koblick

Color and vertical motion successfully guide readers into and through the package. The layout benefits from plenty of white space that allows breakout text room to breathe. The Don't Forget checklist nicely accompanies the Essentials package. Readability is enhanced by color, bold and light fonts and generous line spacing.

LARGE

Bronze: *Indy's Child*; "Summer Fun Guide"; Nicole Sipe, Katie Clark

Creative page and section headings quickly identify the content below. The use of color in typography is attractive and reinforces the sense of fun in the sun. Columns of listings are bright, airy and easy to read.

Silver: *TulsaKids*; "Holiday Family Fun Guide"; Annie Tyndall

Strong, large display of photos attracts readers to a well-structured layout that makes navigation easy. Festive touches to typography set the appropriate tone. The text is clean, utilizing color, typeface contrast, extra line spacing and ragged-right formatting, adding white space. The red reverse banner labels add a nice organizing touch to the listing groupings.

Gold: *Atlanta Parent*; "Summer Fun Guide"; Sheri Taylor-Emery

A dazzling gallery of pictures accompany the list of attractions to kick off the section. New & Noteworthy and Must-Exhibits follow with a similarly attractive layout. The typography is light, airy and easy to navigate.

D12-Overall Design

SMALL

No Bronze or Silver award.

Gold: *Baltimore's Child*; Lonna Koblick

Everything from Spooky Activities, to Learning and Giving, to Wintery Holiday Joy is presented clearly and creatively with fun and informative designs. Colorful illustrations and pertinent photography strike a harmonious balance, providing a heightened level of visual interest from one story to the next.

LARGE

Bronze: *Tulsa Kids*; Annie Tyndall

Bright colors, bold personalities, and playful typography introduce readers to such topics as summer camps, love, and an exploration of hobbies. Page designs are neat and well-organized, and the photography is strong and inviting. Advanced and lively use of color, typography, and an impressive visual hierarchy really stand out in the design of each issue.

Silver: *Chicago Parent*; Lauren Jeziorski, Lindsey Lawson, Kelly Buren

Little design elements and visual touches are plentiful and heighten the design and overall visual presentation from the covers to the very last page of each issue. The cover spine patterns and textures provide a wonderful visual accent; the department story numbering systems are smart, cute and clever; and a devotion to conceptual and idea-based feature design is

extremely admirable. The attention to all of the little details and the unique designs and layouts provide an impressive and engaging read.

Gold: *New York Family*; Leah Mitch

The typography and page designs are simple, sophisticated and appropriate. Feature stories provide opportunities for some well-timed and planned risks at all the right moments. The photography is striking, the illustrations are refreshing, and the cover designs are grand. Every visual and graphic element seems to fit perfectly in its place, contributing to a delightful and consistent visual experience.

ANCILLARY PUBLICATIONS

AP1- Ancillary Cover

Bronze: *Kern County Family Magazine*; “2022 Holiday Fun & Games Book”; LJ Radon, Ginger Lynch

The whimsical illustration uses expressive characters and an attractive color palette to set the stage and convey an appropriate tone of merriment. The nameplate and headline are well integrated into the layout.

Silver: *Monterey Bay Parent*; “Monterey Bay Military Parent”; Marlena Marika, Andrea Breznay

This gorgeous portrait bathes the featured family in beautiful natural light. There also is nice layering of foreground and background. Typography is positioned to capture attention and tie the elements together.

Gold: *Washington Parent*; “Camps & Summer Fun 2023”; Jane MacNealy, designer

The interesting vantage point and crisp, saturated colors in this portrait grab attention and create a compelling cover. The size, colors and positioning of text keep the reader’s eye moving around in a dynamic way without pulling focus from the central figure. The result feels bold and cohesive.

AP2 – Ancillary Feature - *[Category was removed after 2021 contest]*

AP3-Ancillary Feature Design - *[Category was removed after 2017 contest.]*

AP4 - Ancillary Overall Writing

Bronze: *Monterey Bay Parent*; “Military Parent”; Andrea Breznay, Lisa Wong, Sabrina Hiltunen, Tricia Vlasak

With a targeted focus on military families, this issue is packed with useful guides and ideas for local activities. The relocation advice from a family who understands the joys and difficulties of frequent moves is helpful, and also very real. It’s a great resource for families who are new to the area.

Silver: *Chesapeake Family Life*; “Summer Fun Guide”; Donna Jefferson, Nancy Parode, Katie Riley, Lauren Burke Meyer, Jillian Amodio, Claire Darcy and Mary Ostrowski

On topics as varied as summertime flea markets, grandparents and seasonal depression, the writing in this guide is informative and engaging. The mix of stories is decidedly local and the publication establishes itself as an essential and expert resource.

Gold: *Bay Area Parent*; “Summer Survival Guide”; Janine DeFao, Jill Wolfson

The dynamic writing in this guide strikes just the right parent-to-parent tone with an array of stories that are sure to help stave off the summertime cries of “there’s nothing to do!” Catchy ledes invite readers into thoroughly reported stories with all the details for embarking upon adventures far away... or as close as the family kitchen.

AP5 - Ancillary Overall Design

No Bronze award.

Silver: *Atlanta Parent*; “Education Viewbook 2023”; Sheri Taylor-Emery

Bold and colorful typography plus vibrant iconic and relevant photography create an impactful visual depiction of education. Each page has a fantastic sense of consistency and structure allowing for easy navigation and a pleasant reading experience.

Gold: *Chesapeake Family*; “Maryland Summer Fun Guide”; Jenny Cardoza, Donna Jefferson

A beautiful floral motif on the cover grabs attention and invites the reader in. Throughout the publication the colors, typography, photography and illustrations are enticing and dynamic. Page designs creatively deliver information on theater, resorts, museums, and fishing spots while also providing interactive and educational elements.

DIGITAL MEDIA

DG1 - Best Blog/Bloggers

SMALL

No Bronze award.

Silver: *MetroFamily Magazine*; “Weekend Warrior”; Erin Page, Kirsten Holder, Lindsay Cuomo, Emily Bainbridge

Multiple writers contribute to this jam-packed weekly column, which adds a diversity of voices. They are organized by topics with multiple listings of activities included. All listings are aimed at busy families, with a focus on mostly weekend activities. For extra fun there are a few oddities, such as a pigeon museum and a cat café. Concise information for each item is included.

Gold: *Chesapeake Family Life*; “100 Days of Summer”; Claire Darcy, Donna Jefferson

This blog provides a flat-out invitation to go play, day after day after day in the summer. The staff has searched the community to find an amazing variety of activities, ranging from playground fun to celebrating “The Big Dill, the world’s largest pickle.” Material is concisely written with complete information needed for would-be participants.

LARGE

No Bronze award.

Silver: *TulsaKids*; “Grand Life”; Diane Morrow-Kondos

Columns take a good look at how to actively participate in grandchildren’s lives as part of the family, but they go beyond the fun and games and special treats. Particularly evocative were columns decrying Oklahoma legislation that would allow schools to continue to allow schools to spank children including those with intellectual disabilities and another explaining again that when men take care of their children, it’s not babysitting, it’s parenting. The writing displays passion for the topics and advocates strongly for changes in attitudes and responses.

Gold: *TulsaKids*; “Coffee Nebula”; Kristi Roe-Owens

A razor-sharp focus on being a parent in today’s world with an open heart and mind sings throughout this online column. Topics range from family playtime, behavior expectations, safety issues, tips for family budgets; to encouraging creativity, and a gut-wrenching overview of a troubled childhood. The contents are both gleeful and sad, but they are always focused on parenting and family, plus being a member of the community. A column about the really free market, where everything is free and everybody contributes or takes what they need stands out as outstanding community service. The column about personal safety is emphasized with tips on secret phone codes to be shared with family members and others to be used in “where are you” and emergency situations could be life-saving advice.

DG2 - Best Podcast

SMALL

No Bronze or Silver award.

Gold: *MetroFamily Magazine*; “Raising OKC Kids”; Erin Page, managing editor

The podcast does a good job of featuring two guests with first-hand expertise on the latest developments in foster care in Oklahoma. The audio is clear and easy to understand, and it contains valuable insights and resources for prospective and current foster parents in the state.

LARGE

No Bronze or Silver award.

Gold: *Northeast Ohio Parent*; “aParently Speaking Podcast #89”; Miriam Conner, podcast host

The host does an effective job of connecting with her guests on a human level while tackling a difficult topic; approaching the interview with sensitivity and tact. The podcast guests speak effectively on the loss of their son, sharing specific details about their experience to help other parents protect their children.

DG3 - Best E-Newsletter

SMALL

No Bronze or Silver award.

Gold: *MetroFamily Magazine*; “MetroFamily e-newsletter”; Erin Page, Lindsay Cuomo, Emiley Bainbridge, Kirsten Holder, Sarah Taylor

A simple design with bold emphasis on key content makes this newsletter a user-friendly resource for parents looking for the information they need. The “less is more” approach also places a heavier task on the newsletter to provide the most relevant content, which it succeeds in doing, be it an idea for a family activity or information on key issues facing parents and kids.

LARGE

Bronze: *Atlanta Parent*; “Atlanta Parent E-Newsletter”; Sheri Taylor-Emery, Mary Williams

Bright visual elements and catchy photographs make this an eye-catching and attractive resource. The newsletter consistently delivers on the goods it promises with a balanced combination of activity ideas for families and content to help parents navigate the challenges of raising kids.

Silver: *Tulsa Kids*; “TulsaKids’ ENewsletter”; Tara Rittler

Simple, clean and to-the-point formatting give readers a sense of knowing what’s the most relevant to them and their families. Quality photography and graphical imagery highlight the accompanying text, which gives just the right amount of information. The navigation of the newsletter is intuitive and has a logical, sensible flow to it.

Gold: *New York Family*; “New York Family Weekly Newsletter”; Jeannine Cintron, Kaitlyn Riggio, Shara Levine

Starting each newsletter with a note from the editor gives a good note of personal investment in the goal of providing parents the resources they want and need. A balanced layout with inviting visual elements highlights the quality of the content, and the variety of activity ideas and life advice completes the package nicely.

DG4 – Best Use of Social Media

SMALL

No Bronze award.

Silver: *MetroFamily Magazine*; Erin Page, Emiley Bainbridge, Lindsay Cuomo, Kirsten Holder
Leaning into Instagram Reels and TikToks, this organization listens to its audience. By including music and emojis, this social media team plays into the algorithm while balancing voice and tone. The partnership with influencers provides an authentic way to promote what all parents are looking to know – family events and entertainment.

Gold: *PDX Parent*; Meg Asby

This publication owns its voice across all social media platforms. Its consistent content creation and storytelling across Facebook and TikTok meets parents where they are, while focusing on inclusivity and listening to the audience.

LARGE

No Bronze award.

Silver: *Nashville Parent*; Susan Day, editor, Alexandra Day, digital editor

This clear, consistent content through Instagram and Facebook Reels makes it simple for parents in Nashville to know what’s going on every weekend. The collaborative team effort creates posts that are on brand both for the organization and for each social media platform.

Gold: *TulsaKids*; Tara Rittler

High quality images and fun graphics create a balance of allowing the audience to see themselves in the community, while informing them of what they want to know. With strong quotes and teases to stories, parents are intrigued to stay engaged and read stories on the website. Most of all, each image includes alt text, a sign that the team cares about inclusivity and reaching all audiences.

GENERAL EXCELLENCE

GE1- Best Redesigned Publication

No Bronze or Silver award.

Gold: *Bay Area Parent*; Dan Pulcrano, Jill Wolfson, Teresa Mills-Faraudo, Janine DeFao, Staci Stedman-Morris

The new format successfully turns up the volume on the design, making the publication feel more inviting, fun, colorful and modern. The table of contents more effectively showcases the story offerings. Other front-of-book pages are more visually engaging than before. Feature layouts are more dynamic, headlines have more weight, department hierarchy and labeling is improved, and the calendar opening page adopts a contemporary tiled layout.

GE2- Ancillary General Excellence

SMALL

Bronze: *Chesapeake Family Life*; “Maryland Summer Fun Guide”; Jenny Cardoza, Donna Jefferson, Claire Darcy, Nancy Parode, Katie Riley, Jillian Amodio, Lauren Burke Meyer, Mary Ostrowski

This helpful summer guide includes a mix of articles and activities, as well as ideas for both parents and grandparents. It is organized and easy to navigate, with attention given to the design of every spread. Subheads and contrast break up body copy, and there is a mix of illustrations and photographs. This is an excellent reader service publication.

Silver: *Monterey Bay Parent*; “Welcoming Our Newest Neighbors”; Andrea Breznay, Lisa Wong, Tricia Vlasak, Sabrina Hiltunen, Marlena Marika

A strong cover image and focused content allow readers to see themselves in these pages and connect with others like them. The content is highly useful, including annual events, listings, a private school guide, picnic spots and more. Lively design makes it fun to read.

Gold: *PDX Parent*; “PDX Parent’s Welcome Guide 2022”; Denise Castañon, Tiffany Hill, Tiffany Howard, Rose Caudillo, Jill Weisensee

Small formats can be difficult, but this handy guide is put together with finesse and elegance. It includes a surprising amount of deep editorial content, as well as essential information and activities that newcomers won’t find anywhere else. Writing is excellent and done with flair. This welcome guide is a must have for any Portland newcomer.

LARGE

No Bronze award.

Silver: *New York Family*; “New York Family Annual Guide 2022-2023”; Donna Duarte-Ladd, Leah Mitch

The compact size makes this guide easy to keep and carry as a handy reference. Color-coded sections help with navigation of the many useful sections, such as the best skateboarding parks, free things to do, special needs family fun, and the best places to enjoy nature. Thoughtful

and minimal design works particularly well with this small publication size.

Gold: *Atlanta Parent*; “Education Viewbook”; Emily Webb, Sheri Taylor-Emery, Tali Benjamin, Mary Williams, Liz White

This guide is indispensable for parents researching schools for their children. It includes detailed information on private and public schools in one place, as well as “how-to” articles and listings. A well-designed table of contents helps with navigation, and several good short articles open the book.

GE3 – Website General Excellence

SMALL

No Bronze award.

Silver: *MetroFamily Magazine*; Lindsay Cuomo, Erin Page, Emiley Bainbridge, Sarah Taylor, Kirsten Holder

Pumpkin patches, farm fun, and fall camps are among the highlight stories and information parents find when they visit this website. The material includes both events as well as local news readers need to know. The images shared within the site also enable families to see themselves as important members of the community.

Gold: *L.A. Parent*; Elena Epstein, Cassandra Lane, Nina Harada

With colorful photos, on-brand creative advertising, and innovate design, this website is a place where an audience would want to stay and engage. From features on banned book authors to articles on gender diversity and artificial intelligence, parents can keep coming back to learn more about the topics they care about. The website user-friendly and has an overall great balance of different kinds of stories.

LARGE

Bronze: *New York Family*; Donna Duarte-Ladd

With a good mix of resource material, event listings, and “hot topics,” parents can find whatever interests them here. The conversational writing beckons readers to stay and learn more, sprinkling in fun phrases like “A dose of kidspiration.”

Silver: *ParentMap*; Alayne Sulkin

This original website design features fun icons and simple outlines to make each story stand alone, yet it provides a cohesive feel for the entire site. The regional options for newsletter signups are brilliant, as it caters to what parents want to know near their homes. Finally, an image friendly calendar provides engaging updates for all audiences.

Gold: *Kansas City Parent*; Michael Gimotty, Kristina Light

A great navigation with phrases like “pumpkin patch,” makes sure parents are getting what they want to know up front. This user-friendly website is original and specific to the area, and provides updated news and along with access to ample listings of events to keep families entertained.

GE4 - General Excellence

SMALL

Bronze: *Southwest Ohio Parent Magazine*; Nicole Sipe, Katie Clark, Rebecca Matteson, Becca Reynolds, Wendy Hasser

The “local” shines through in this publication – from the lively cover subjects to the photos of kids that kick off the issues. The design successfully leads the reader through a slate of important topics that capture the multi-faceted needs of parents.

Silver: *MetroFamily Magazine*; Sarah Taylor, Erin Page, Lindsay Cuomo, Emiley Bainbridge, Stacy Noakes

This publication provides a mix of information that is needed to navigate modern parenthood, whether that’s understanding gender discussions or choosing a school. With an abundance of guides and profiles of local parents, the magazine feels authentic and useful to its audience.

Gold: *Baltimore’s Child*; staff

Elegant design and robust reporting converge in this publication that dives into some tough issues facing families – such as grief or child abuse – while offering advice that goes beyond activities and guides. Stories are well-written and engaging while the visuals really stand out in a publication that is smart from cover to cover.

LARGE

Bronze: *Metro Parent*; Alexis Bourkoulas, Tamara O’Shaughnessy, Kelly Buren

A robust slate of stories and eye-catching covers make this publication shine. The “Handpicked” section offers a variety of activities and advice right off the bat, then in-depth stories connect parents with the people and information that matter. Local faces and active photography stand out throughout the magazine.

Silver: *DFW Child*; Joylyn Niebes, Amanda Collins Bernier, Sean Parsons, Lauren Niebes
Spectacular covers and a beautifully designed package are highlights in this magazine that is brimming with service content. Varied stories serve up serious subjects while detailed reporting in guides provides actionable information about schools, activities and more.

Gold: *TulsaKids*; Betty Casey, Chuck Foshee, Annie Tyndall

This magazine covers its community well and establishes itself as an essential local resource for parents. High-caliber articles abound, covering a wide range of topics, from choosing a summer camp to more difficult ones, such as dealing with a bullying teacher or overcoming a first crush. Engaging covers and active photography throughout round out a winning package.