

Parenting Media Association
2024 Design and Editorial Awards Program

EDITORIAL

E1 – Overall Writing

SMALL

No Bronze award.

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

This publication’s focus on reader service is evident with articles that give Los Angeles parents a lot of information in useful, bite-sized pieces. Stories about local chefs, business owners, families and kids keep the publication grounded in the community. And first-person stories add emotional weight, as do pieces that address issues such as book banning, gender diversity and AI.

Gold: *Baltimore’s Child*; staff

The articles in this publication address the full range of what it means to be a parent, from home to community to school. Anecdotal ledes and stories about Baltimore parents lend an authentic feel that permeates the entire publication – the “Parent you should know” column is especially nice. Expert voices and research add authority, and the writing is engaging throughout with a creative flair that occasionally is laugh-out-loud funny.

LARGE

No Bronze award.

Silver: *Atlanta Parent*; Liz White, Atlanta Parent editorial team

With a distinct local focus, these articles address big ideas such as cultural connectivity, honoring Black voices or health care through an Atlanta lens. The use of anecdotes helps make topics relatable for readers, and strong editorial sections go deep on varied topics, including education and finding a dentist. The writing is breezy throughout, with attention to details in features as well as briefs.

Gold: *Washington Parent*, Karen Kullgren

This publication deftly handles an array of topics that are meaningful to D.C., Maryland and Virginia families, from neurodivergent kids and eating disorders to decorating a tween’s room and winter wildlife. A mix of straightforward, actionable articles and guides combine with the more irreverent tone of stories like “A letter to my teenager’s car.” All together, the mix helps the magazine live up to its mission as “the trusted source” for the parents it serves.

E2 – Recurring Column

SMALL

No Bronze award.

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

Interesting, inspiring interviews with mothers who are also entrepreneurs, volunteers and community leaders. The Q&A style makes this feature easily accessible for an audience of readers who are also busy parents themselves.

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

This entry captures the thoughts and feelings of fathers in a way that recognizes the overall challenges and simple beauties of parenthood. The writer’s tone is one that reflects the different roles fathers might have in family dynamics and celebrates them all.

LARGE

No Bronze award.

Silver: *Kansas City Parent*; “Six-Stop Tour”; Kristina Light, Lauri Clapper, Michael Gimotty, Kim Tappan

This feature column has great appeal for readers who want to find activities or places to visit centered around a central theme. Whether it’s where to see KC’s best holiday events or what historic sites to visit during Black History Month, this feature has all the details readers need.

Gold: *Washington Parent*; “Parenting Education Program”; Karen Kullgren

The easy tone this column invites readers into some deep subjects about parenting, such as how to make the best use of social media for sharing family updates that won’t harm your family or children or how to add some resolutions that will help keep parents sane in the new year. This advice column isn’t preachy but is so relatable, it’s like having a conversation with a close friend.

E3 – Publisher’s/Editor’s Note

SMALL

Bronze: *L.A. Parent*; “Editor’s Note”; Elena Epstein, Cassandra Lane

These letters tackle difficult subjects, including strained parental relationships and finding joy amid global turmoil. With a distinctive voice, the writer recognizes the whole lives of fellow parents, and successfully transforms personal stories into universal themes.

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

Thoughtful and well written, these pieces grab readers’ attention with creative ledes and a point of view. The letters cover irreverent topics, such as the local “Santa Blair,” as well as headier ones asking parents to support teachers as the Oklahoma education system is being attacked.

Gold: *Neapolitan Family*, “From the Publisher”; Stacy Nicolau, co-publisher, Jane MacNealy, co-publisher

With clear and breezy writing, these columns invite readers to share in the common

experiences of sending children off to college or watching *Schoolhouse Rock*. The writer creates an emotional connection with readers and also deftly connects to the magazine issue they're holding in their hands.

LARGE

Bronze: *Northeast Ohio Parent*; “Editor’s Note”; Angela Gartner

Starting with personal moments many parents can relate to – a quiet morning in bed with the dog or spending time scrolling on Instagram – these entries examine topics like heart health or social media’s effects on child development. They are packed with information as well as personal notes.

Silver: *DFW Child*; “Editor’s Note”; Amanda Collins Bernier

These letters focus on the small joys and moments that are familiar to most parents. They invite readers to pause amid the hustle and bustle and take a moment to appreciate – and be grateful for – the whole chaotic swirl of it. With breezy and relatable writing, the pieces connect to broader issues like health or reading with your kids.

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

This column was a delight to read and successfully transformed personal stories into engaging, laugh-out-loud tales for all readers. The piece about his son with autism and the many misplaced generalities was perspective shifting. And the “rock star” story speaks to the long-forgotten dreams of youth that can re-emerge as parents, perhaps even by becoming your kids’ favorite musician.

E4 – Briefs/Short Stuff

SMALL

Bronze: *Frederick's Child*; “The Roundup / First Up”; Staff, Jillian Diamond

Thanks to this section, local parents will be informed about ways for their kids to get more involved in the community and develop their passions. Highly localized, the stories provide reader service on how families can access opportunities such as grants, musical programs and youth government.

Silver: *Kern County Family Magazine*; “Refrigerator Door: Local Voices, News & Trends”; LJ Radon, Vaun Thygeron

This round-up will keep parents informed and entertained in their community. The carefully selected mix of short stories range from introducing a high school’s new football coach, celebrating a café opening and giving progress updates on a new distribution center. Each blurb is concise and clear while providing key reader service.

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

This page is the definition of short and sweet, hitting just the right mix of themed tidbits and local reader service. Parents and kids alike will enjoy the fun facts, and family calendars will be thankful for the featured notable events and adventures.

LARGE

No awards.

E5 – Calendar of Events

SMALL

No Bronze award.

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

This concise and well-written guide to family events in the region presents many possibilities of where kids can go for fun or enrichment. There also is great parent advice, too, like whether adult beverages are sold.

Gold: *L.A. Parent*; “The Times is Now” and “From Blooming to Beaming”; Nina Harada, Cassandra Lane, Elena Epstein

There’s so much to do in Los Angeles that a listing simply won’t do! This calendar offers longer takes on some experiences along with more traditional listings. It breaks them down into categories and points online for more information. The items are written with pizzazz, but are concise as well.

LARGE

No Bronze or Silver award.

Gold: *Nashville Parent*; “Things to Do”; Michael Aldrich, writer and managing editor, Susan Day, editor

This breezily written and easy-to-navigate selection of events provides a lot of utility. Concise descriptions help parents decide the appropriate age and cost of each event. Daily listings make it easy to find what to do that day or weekend.

E6 – Special Section Within a Publication

SMALL

No Bronze award.

Silver: *Staten Island Parent*; “The Ultimate Guide to Schools”; Donna Duarte-Ladd, executive director, Jeannine Cintron, editor

This package of stories presents a good overview of the educational options parents have in the New York City area and addresses challenges that might arise despite the best planning. The comprehensive school listings and descriptions are a sure keeper item for families.

Gold: *Baltimore’s Child*; “Inclusive Family”; staff

Strong writing and reporting undergird this collection of stories that ask important and insightful questions about parenting children with disabilities. The breadth of topics stands out, including a research-focused look at how ADHD impacts social capital formation, and a how-to primer for interviewing administrators of prospective summer camps.

LARGE

Bronze: *Atlanta Parent*; “STEAM Up for Success in the 21st Century”; Liz White, publisher, Emily Webb, writer, Tali Benjamin, managing editor, Mary Williams, writer

Going beyond the buzz, this package gives parents key understanding of what is important about STEAM — science, technology, engineering, arts and math — and how to incorporate it in a low-pressure way into family activities. A thorough listing of local STEAM camps provides a useful resource.

Silver: *Northeast Ohio Parent*; “June/July Summer Guide”; Angela Gartner, editor, Denise Koeth, digital content manager, Aisha Taylor, author, Joel Hammond, author, Shana O’Malley-Smith, author

The central concept of this package is as simple as it is ambitious: 94 things to do for families in Northeast Ohio between the end of one school year and the start of another. The proceeding pages plot a mirthful maze from a northern planetarium on Lake Erie to a southern “adrenaline park” in Kentucky. Rounding out the package are complementary stories about summer safety and low-key activities when the family isn’t hitting the road.

Gold: *Atlanta Parent*; “We Know Schools: Atlanta’s Best Guide to Education”; Liz White, publisher, Atlanta Parent editorial team

There’s something for every parent in this package that operates well at multiple levels. Sober guides on what to expect at each grade level and a well-reported overview of state legislative actions around literacy provide a big-picture view of the educational scene. Action-oriented stories with tips for choosing and preparing for different school environments bring a more immediate focus. Thorough lists of individual public and private schools close the package with a close-up gaze.

E7 – Child Development & Parenting Article

SMALL

Bronze: *MetroKids*; “Careers Under Construction”; Sharen Hollander, writer, Michelle Hollander, writer

This fun, engaging exploration of career development in children helps parents better appreciate the value of play and find more meaningful moments to guide and develop their children’s interests.

Silver: *PDX Parent*; “Transcending Uncertainty”; Robin Lanehurst, writer, Tiffany Hill, managing editor, Denise Castañon, editor

Vulnerable human reflection supplemented by expert sources and national data, packaged around clear action steps for readers makes this story about raising transgender children not just approachable but universal. A sidebar about state and local legislation makes it even more timely.

Gold: *Neapolitan Family*; “Insta-Isolation”; Stacy Nicolau, co-owner and co-publisher, Jane MacNealy, co-owner and co-publisher, Andrea Stetson, contributing writer

The opening scene visually captures the ever-present lure of technology and the costs it imposes on children. Multiple interviews with young people resist turning the topic into a B-

movie caricature, and experts close this well-sourced package with relevant scientific and historical context.

LARGE

No Bronze award.

Silver: *Washington Parent*; “Paging “Dr. TikTok”: What to Do When Your Child Self-Diagnoses With a Mental Health Issue”; Dr. Emma Basch, author, Caren Appel, author, Karen Kullgren, editor

Social media’s negative effects on mental health are becoming widely understood. This story, written by health experts, explores what happens when social media influencers themselves take up that cause, and it provides guidance to parents for when a culture of mental wellness crosses into potentially dangerous self-diagnosis.

Gold: *Bay Area Parent*; “The Golden Ticket”; Angela Geiser, author, Irena Smith, author, Tanni Haas, author, Cheryl Maguire, author, Jill Wolfson, editor

Rooted in the author’s deep expertise, this story about high-stakes college admissions transforms into a story about parenting with empathy. Written in an engaging, approachable manner, the story doesn’t so much peel back the onion of its fraught subject, but rather gives permission to acknowledge it — and then toss it aside.

E8 – Family Matters Article

SMALL

Bronze: *Washington Family*; “How Two Mothers Found Healing with Organ Donation”; Heather Ross

How should parents talk about organ donation — and death — with children? This article shares personal, moving stories about families who have been impacted by organ donation, and it offers insightful advice on how to broach the topic with children. The article concludes that “organ donation can connect the world,” but it starts with parents connecting deeper with their children at home by having those conversations.

Silver: *Queens Family*; “A Guide to Breastfeeding for NYC Moms”; Marina Dunbar

It’s hard to move through the world with a baby in tow, especially if the baby is breastfed in some way, yet many families don’t have a choice but to leave the protective circle of home. This place-specific article helps parents know what their rights are in workplaces, transit and other public places while also highlighting local resources and support groups. It tackles the stigma of breastfeeding and helps parents feel empowered to move through public spaces with their babies.

Gold: *L.A. Parent*; “Back-to-School Mental Health”; Cassandra Lane, Elena Epstein, Shelley Gaske

To borrow a phrase from the article’s deck, this guide to help parents tackle mental health conversations is “life-affirming.” Expert-guided tips both normalize mental health issues in kids of all ages and empower parents to dig in with their children. It reminds parents to care for

themselves, too, and model learning, mistakes and opening up. The writing tone is sympathetic and hopeful, and there is rarely a paragraph without valuable, specific advice woven in.

LARGE

Bronze: *Northeast Ohio Parent*; “Single Parent Holidays”; Faith Boone

Sometimes holidays can seem far from festive, especially if families are navigating multiple households. Still, the traditions and celebrations of holidays are important to most parents and children, and this article helps parents build a smoother holiday so kids can focus on making memories. The article both normalizes the difficulty of juggling the needs and emotions of multiple households and gives practical tips for overcoming the prickly patches. The article’s structure breaks out actionable insights for parents to easily understand.

Silver: *Atlanta Parent*; “Splish Splash: 5 Water Safety Tips for Families”; Emily Webb

Dive into all-important water safety with the advice and local resources provided in this article. The body of the story is comprised of five helpful steps that will help families splash safely, and sidebars provide area-specific swim lessons by age and a swim-safety test. Armed with this article’s advice, families can more safely enjoy pools and water in the hot summer months.

Gold: *Atlanta Parent*; “Making Life Easier: Healthcare for Busy Families”; Tali Benjamin

The healthcare system is thorny and difficult for most people, let alone parents seeking medical care for children. This article breaks down emerging ways families can access healthcare, including drive-thru, telemedicine and concierge care. It tells parents what to expect about the level of experts at various organizations while focusing on local resources, and it helps parents navigate insurance coverage at each. These area-specific details make the article actionable and valuable.

E9 – Family Fun Article

SMALL

Bronze: *MetroKids*; “The Tooth Fairy’s House”; Heather Ross

This enchanted DIY craft helps parents expand the wonder of visits from the Tooth Fairy. Easy-to-follow directions and a playful tone make this piece a hit.

Silver: *MetroFamily Magazine*; “Cultivating Creativity in OKC”; Lindsay Cuomo, Erin Page, Emiley Bainbridge

Creativity knows no bounds in Oklahoma City – from the performing arts to cultivating your inner chef. Clear and well-reported, this story offers plentiful suggestions for local places where parents can help stoke their kids’ imaginations.

Gold: *Monterey Bay Parent*; “Tide Pool Time”; Dawn Alva, Beau Jackson, Andrea Breznay

This guide to tide pooling will make explorers of all ages excited to put on a pair of old shoes and go wading into the water. Starting with the practical stuff of what to wear and when and where to go, this piece then dives into details about the wonderful creatures that await, including monkeyface eels and sea stars.

LARGE

Bronze: *TulsaKids*; “Kids in the Kitchen”; Natalie Mikles

With practical ideas, this piece invites parents to invite their kids – even toddlers – to help out in the kitchen. The writer offers age-appropriate suggestions, as well as encouragement for wary adults and handy recipes to try.

Silver: *Washington Parent*; “Celebrating Iranian New Year (Nowruz) With Your Family”; Roya Shariat, Gita Sadeh, Karen Kullgren

This story clearly comes from the heart. With warmth and sensory details, the author explains the meaning of the holiday Nowruz and how it is celebrated. The descriptions of food are especially lush, and the connection to family traditions is palpable.

Gold: *DFW Child*; “Mermaid Magic”; Elizabeth Smith

What a magical piece! The writer weaves together whimsy and reality – creating a can’t-miss list for fans of “The Little Mermaid.” From a mermaid parade to safety tips for wearing a tail, it is brimming with actionable and fun ways to become part of the mermaid world.

E10 – Humor Article

SMALL

No awards.

LARGE

No Bronze or Silver award.

Gold: *DFW Child*; “Humor: Dad Amongst Dudes: Game On”; Josh Farnsworth columnist

A familiar story is told well, with just the right amount of light sarcasm. Each setup is straightforward and brief, so the punchline lands and still elicits a chuckle at what you knew was coming. This is a nice slice of life that the reader can relate to — been there, done that — and still smile at the real message: the value of time spent with the family, no matter the bumps in the road.

E11 – Travel Feature

SMALL

Bronze: *MetroFamily Magazine*; “O Christmas Towns!”; Lindsay Cuomo, Erin Page, Emily Bainbridge

Without leaving the state, families can find three very distinct and different Christmas celebrations. A Festival of Lights, inflatable leg lamp, a BB gun exhibit and more offer a variety of options in just one town. Another town features 800-foot decorated canopies along the Historic Route 66. A third offers a 122 foot tall metal Christmas tree. The writing moves along crisply, offering a sense of excitement just reading about the opportunities,

Silver: *L.A. Parent*; “Buellton Beckons”; Cassandra Lane, Elena Epstein, Edwin Albanian

Everyone seems to think Napa and Sonoma counties are America’s wine country, but Santa Ynez Valley has its share of family distractions. Zip lines are not just for rain forests. And an upscale RV park offers the usual, newer cottages, glam safari tents, pool and jacuzzi. Food options are plentiful. Accompanying photographs back up the author’s positive view of the available experiences.

Gold: *Chesapeake Family Life*; “Dublin for Families”, Eric Goodman

Just off the well-beaten tourist paths of Dublin are several places to visit with unique exhibits and experiences. Clear writing invites a deeper look into Ireland’s heritage, aside from the Guinness and distilleries.

LARGE

Bronze: *Baton Rouge Parents Magazine*; “4 Unforgettable Staycations in Louisiana,”; Amanda Miller

Where to stay, what to do and where to eat are helpfully chronicled here for Baton Rouge, Lafayette, New Orleans and Shreveport. New Orleans may be familiar to travelers, but this guide digs a little deeper to avoid the nationally known (and crowded) tourist favorites. There’s plenty for families to do in Lafayette and Shreveport, as well as Baton Rouge. The suggestions are well suited to families.

Silver: *Bay Area Parent*; “Hum Along the Highway”; Millicent Skiles

A road trip from the Bay Area to San Diego: what could go wrong. Well, possibly, anything. So the writer offers some sound tips, gleaned from experience. Scenic or quick? Planned stops, or surprises? Disneyland? “Bring towels, lots of towels.” Don’t forget the 12 piece travel kit. And review the nine tips to keep everyone sane.

Gold: *New York Family*; “Family-Friendly Guide to Belize”; Jennifer Cintron

The writer covers the small country from the east ocean coast to the western rain forests, highlighting places for families to stay, play and eat. The coast offers one of the world’s coral reefs that can be explored with children, not just adults. Zip lines and historic native pottery making, too. Youngsters should also enjoy the nation’s zoo, birding and the Green Iguana Conservation Project. This is a thorough, information-laden guide for travelers.

E12 – Personal Essay

SMALL

Bronze: *Hood Magazine*; “Planning for Purpose”; Steffanie Holtrup, Sarah Parker, Ally Chase, Chelsey Schnell, Jaelyn Small

The engaging writing and story shared in this essay make it one that readers can easily connect with. The voice and writing style of the author are relatable and the topic is one that touches so many families. The story of hope and healing is also so uplifting as a theme.

Silver: *Colorado Parent*; “How Do I Still Love Backpacking?”; Austria Cohn, Amy Foreman

The light-hearted beginning of this essay appeals to readers who can relate, but then the writer goes deeper in making connections about why parents sometimes still favor activities that help families connect and build memories.

Gold: *L.A. Parent*; “When Mom Has Cancer”; Cassandra Lane, Elena Epstein, Domenica Ruta, Edwin Alparian

This poignant essay evokes all the emotional tugs of hearing about parenting while treating cancer. The writer takes us on her journey and addresses questions and talks about how she found peace while juggling all sorts of needs, personal, medical and familial. The writing and pace help keep readers engaged and hoping for a good outcome by the end of her story.

LARGE

No Bronze award.

Silver: *Westchester Family*; “Millennial Dads”; Drew Isserlis-Kramer

An interesting essay that examines the life and role of Millennial fathers in today’s society. It accounts for social context by adding in voices from experts and researchers, which helps build the argument for dads doing more as they teach their children to be better parents by modeling good behaviors.

Gold: *Washington Parent*; “Parenting with Chronic Fatigue: One Mother’s Story of Resilience and Hope”; Diana M. Martin, Karen Kullgren

This essay is honest and engaging as it tells the story of one mother’s struggle with parenting while seeking a diagnosis and trying to care for herself after loss. As the headline suggests, the story is one of hope as it offers tips for how to manage chronic disease and recovery. It’s a completely relatable story that should touch many readers.

E13 – Profile

SMALL

No Bronze award.

Silver: *MetroKids*; “Four Cheers for Terrific Teachers”; Courtney McGee

Great profiles often show how a person can affect others. In this package of short profiles of area teachers, the writer uses quotes from parents to illustrate how the teachers made their kids’ lives better.

Gold: *’Hood Magazine*; “The Power of Community: The Becker Family’s Journey”; Sarah Parker, Steffanie Holtrop, Ally Chase, Skay Photography

This profile shows how a local family rose to the challenges after doctors delivered some of the worst news that a parent can hear: their four-year old son had brain cancer. The writer uses detailed scenes to illustrate the family’s journey that took them closer to each other and their own community.

LARGE

No Bronze award.

Silver: *Baton Rouge Parents Magazine*; “Thrive: Bridging the Maternal Mental Health Gap”; Victoria Mikota, Amy Foreman, Amanda Miller

This profile gives readers an inside look at why a local business owner started a non-profit to focus on maternal mental health. The writer combines extensive research and interviews for this this article.

Gold: *Atlanta Parent*; “Work of the Heart: Local Moms and the Businesses They Built”; Emily Webb

These short profiles are packed with color and details about what drove Atlanta-area moms to start their own businesses. It’s clear that the writer conducted extensive interviews to get the detail and quotes that are used in each story.

E14 – Q&A Interview

SMALL

No Bronze award.

Silver: *Baltimore's Child*; “The Piano Man of Baltimore”; Heather M. Ross, writer

This entry takes a compelling local character, captures his personality and informs the audience about beginning their children’s journeys in musical education.

Gold: *Nola Family Magazine*; “Mom About Town: Jennifer Jouandot”; Madison Voorhies, associate editor

The writer does an excellent job of capturing the subject’s complexity, from parenting seven kids in a blended family to dealing with infertility while providing useful advice to other parents.

LARGE

Bronze: *Baton Rouge Parents Magazine*; “Dad Next Door: Jared Lamb”; Amanda Miller, Managing Editor, Amy Foreman, publisher

Through incisive and cohesive questions, the interviewer successfully melds the subject’s work as an educator with his philosophy on parenting to create a well-rounded portrait of a prominent member of the Baton Rouge community.

Silver: *DFW Child*; “Mom Next Door: Kate Weiser”; Amanda Collins Bernier, managing editor,

Expertly descriptive writing draws the reader into an interview that covers everything from the subject’s business, to her approach to parenting, to dealing with a heartbreaking loss.

Gold: *Bay Area Parent*; “What Parents and Teens Need To Know About Cannabis”; Angela Geiser, author, Jill Wolfson, editor

This interview with a leading expert efficiently and comprehensively provides answers to the questions at the forefront of parents’ concerns about the impact of cannabis use on developing minds.

E15 – Special Series

SMALL

Bronze: *Nola Family Magazine*; “Parenting with Courage”; Dr. Chrissy Chard, Amanda Miller,

Amy Foreman

This ambitious series of stories tackles the challenges of parenting from different perspectives. In each article, the writers show the struggles that parents face in detail. Then, they offer solutions that parents can enact in their own lives.

Silver: *Monterey Bay Parent*; “California National Parks Series”; Dawn Alva, Andrea Breznay

These three stories take readers on in-depth tours inside the state’s national parks. The stories blend words and images to show the wonders lurking inside each of the parks. The writers also provide travel tips for parents who might visit for the first time with their children.

Gold: *Neapolitan Family*; “Rad Dad Series”; Stacy Nicolau, Jane MacNealy, Leigh Ann Newman, Anna Snyder

This series of short profiles gives readers a look into the lives of three local dads who are committed to their kids and communities in different ways. The writers provide telling details about the fathers. The writing is fast-paced and punchy.

LARGE

No Bronze or Silver award.

Gold: *Atlanta Parent*; “Let’s Talk Tech”; Tali Benjamin, Liz White

In this exhaustive series, the writers show parents the pros and cons of tech use and screen time. The stories are extensively researched, so parents are provided with enough knowledge to make educated decisions on their own. Each part of the series dives into a distinct subject area.

E16 – News Feature

SMALL

Bronze: *Baltimore’s Child*; “Data Doesn’t Tell the Whole Story”; Sasha Rogelberg

This well-sourced and well-written article does a good job of reminding readers that standardized test scores’ value can be limited.

Silver: *Washington Family*; “The Pregnant Workers Fairness Act Just Passed. Here’s What You Need to Know”; Sasha Rogelberg

This very smart story puts a newly enacted law into context and explains how it works. The writing is clear and conversational, with strong sourcing.

Gold: *MetroKids*; “How Much is the National Teacher Shortage Affecting Pennsylvania?”; Jarrad Saffren

This piece does a great job localizing a national story. It includes a strong mix of statistics, context and real-world voices. It also offers some potential solutions to combat the teacher shortage.

LARGE

Bronze: *Baton Rouge Parents Magazine*; “Bullying Prevention: What are the schools doing?”
Amanda Miller and Amy Foreman

This article tackles an important, sensitive subject without being sensational. It brings a nice mix of sourcing and solid explanatory writing.

Silver: *DFW Child*; “Let Them Play”; Erin Hayes Burt and Amanda Collins Bernier

Nice job on an interesting topic – the importance of play – with great explanations and solid sourcing. The reporting really helps the reader understand why play matters.

Gold: *Atlanta Parent*; “Literacy Legislation: Read All About It”; Liz White and Mary Welch

This piece effectively expands on issues raised in new legislation. The author clearly explains the problem and includes several helpful examples of schools doing innovative things to improve student literacy.

E17 – Non-Traditional Story Form

SMALL

Bronze: *Kern County Family Magazine*; “11 Ways to Be Inclusive of Others All Year Long”; LJ Radon, Ginger Lynch, Callie Collins

This list provides inspiration for parents to be more inviting and offers specific ideas for opening up. The text includes good context and explanation for each idea. Subheads are direct and to-the-point.

Silver: *Nola Family Magazine*; “Dental Care for Special Needs”; Austria Cohn, Amy Foreman, Amanda Miller

Combining advice from two experts, this article presents a lot of helpful advice. Organizing parts of the story in list format helps make the material easier to skim and to understand.

Gold: *MetroFamily Magazine*; “A Very OKC Holiday”; Erin Page, Stacy Noakes

This collection of holiday activities presents a well-researched range of family-friendly ideas. Blocks of text are tightly written yet contain all the information a parent would need. Accompanying photos are informative and help readers see what each event entails.

LARGE

Bronze: *Brooklyn Family*; “Winter in NYC Bucket List”; Donna Duarte-Ladd, Jeannine Cintron, Shara Levine

A list of 25 winter ideas helps parents get into the spirit of the season. The list offers a wide array of options, and the writing displays a nice local voice.

Silver: *Atlanta Parent*; “Cool School Programs”; Mary Williams

A lot of reporting effort shines through in this collection of unique school programs from across the metro area. Each description is packed with interesting details.

Gold: *Atlanta Parent*; “The Best ‘Boo’ on the Block”; Emily Webb, Mary Williams

A dozen creative ideas for Halloween decorations are effectively grouped by various themes. The package is pulled together by clever subheads and display type. Photos are employed well to engage the reader and, more importantly, to convey each idea visually.

E18 – Service Feature

SMALL

Bronze: *Baltimore's Child*; “On the Go with Autism”; Heather Ross

Trips and vacations are often core memories for families, yet they can be overstimulating for children with autism. This article helps parents create an on-the-go sensory kit to be prepared for nearly anything. The lead of this article engrosses the reader in what it might feel like to experience a trip as a child with autism. The body of the article is cleverly divided into actionable and helpful information based on the senses.

Silver: *Kern County Family Magazine*; “Beat the Summer Slide with Reading”; LJ Radon, Andrea Rose

School’s out for summer, and it can be a both fun and difficult time for families with children. This article makes summer reading seem easy and accessible. With plenty of reader service information, including local library programs and children’s book recommendations, the article is neatly structured and easy to navigate. Read on!

Gold: *Queens Family*; “Empowering Museum Visits”; Donna Duarte-Ladd

For families with children with disabilities, outings can be stressful or even harmful, yet all families — and all children — deserve to experience museums. This article helps families with children with all kinds of disabilities access a plethora of local museums by providing information about mobility access, sensory experiences and more. The writer’s first-person experience of navigating museums with a child with autism normalizes the challenges and offers support to parents in similar positions.

LARGE

Bronze: *Washington Parent*; “15 Secrets to a Successful College Tour”; Cherie Gough, Karen Kullgren

This article is certainly a helpful resource to help families make decisions about colleges on campus visits. Even more so, the article guides parents to picture their children’s next stage of life with much more clarity. The practical tips push parents to serve up at a dining hall, strike up a valuable conversation with current students and walk to nearby coffee shops — just like their kid would. It points out how to separate the flashy from the functional on campuses and offers “cool tools” along the way to connect parents with resources and community groups.

Silver: *Bay Area Parent*; “Travel on the Spectrum”; Jill Wolfson, Angela Geiser

New environments can be difficult for children with autism or sensory sensitivities, but that doesn’t mean families can’t take trips together. This article highlights local cities with programs designed to help families practice and access travel, and it also explores how the tourism industry has evolved to help families with children with autism navigate hotel stays, air travel and attractions. The article is peppered with stories from area families who have done it so readers will feel more confident.

Gold: *DFW Child*; “Raise a Reader”; Gina Mayfield

Reading is magical — and vital. This article provides age-appropriate insights to help parents encourage a fantastical love of reading in their children. The article’s structure, broken up by age range with specific advice for each stage of life, makes it easy for families to support reading as children grow. The article touches on topics such as babies who teeth on books and the power of graphic novels for early readers. Sidebars provide even more actionable reader service advice and resources for parents.

E19 – General Feature Writing

SMALL

Bronze: *Colorado Parent*; “Just a Click Away from a Child Predator”; Austria Cohn, writer, Amy Foreman

A straightforward and helpful piece that details what parents need to know about how crafty predators will try to reach out to children – including through their Fitbits! This strongly reported piece will arm parents with knowledge that move them from naïve to proactive about child safety. It’s must read for parents and grandparents to help spot when a child might be targeted.

Silver: *Neapolitan Family*; “Preventing Gun Violence: How Schools are Keeping Kids Safe”; Stacy Nicolau, Leigh Ann Newman, Andrea Stetson, writer, Jane MacNealy

A strong dose of reality – how local kids are planning to escape a school shooter is how this writer grabs our attention. This piece is a great update on how area schools keep changing prevention and safety drills to keep one step ahead of gun violence. Well reported and written.

Gold: *L.A. Parent*; “Cooking Through Grief”; Cassandra Lane, Amy Chesler, writer, Elena Epstein, Edwin Alpanian

Grief is a part of everyone’s lives, and the writer introduces us to the idea of grief rituals, or ways we can honor and remember those who have passed. For her, cooking and the kitchen are a safe space to remember her mother. Along the way she helps readers envision ways they can navigate grief and trauma through the power of ritual. Well written, fast paced and helpful.

LARGE

Bronze: *DFW Child*; “Failure is an Option”; Amanda Collins Bernier, writer

In this world where success is every proud parent’s mantra, should we let our kids taste failure? This piece offers the upside of failing – more resilient kids. In a piece filled with examples, the author lays out a solid argument. A helpful guide lets readers know when they might be over-parenting.

Silver: *Baton Rouge Parents Magazine*; “Piecing Together the Puzzle: The Road to an Autism Diagnosis”; Amanda Miller, writer, Amy Foreman

The isolation of the pandemic limited interaction for infants and children. In detailing a family’s journey from birth to autism diagnosis, the writer offers advice and hope to parents dealing with questions about their own kids. Fast paced with fresh ideas, it offers great insight for families.

Gold: *DFW Child*; “Rare Parents”; Amanda Collins Bernier, writer

Dealing with a child’s rare condition – a medical situation that’s uncommon and unknown – requires a special parent: the RARE parent. The author uses statistics, anecdotes and detailed description to take readers along on a journey of the planning and problems that upend the lives of these parents, who even move or change jobs to help their vulnerable children. The toughest part for most families is the excruciating wait to find the right answer.

E20 – Sponsored Content

SMALL

No Bronze or Silver award.

Gold: *MetroFamily Magazine*; “Stepping Up: The Carrington Family”; Sarah Taylor, president and publisher, Erin Page, editorial and marketing director

Through skillful scene-setting and careful details, the story of the Carrington family and their 17 foster children show the humanity within Oklahoma’s foster system. Relevant statistics elevate the story further, helping readers understand the larger context the family is operating within.

LARGE

Bronze: *Kansas City Parent*; “Enchant Christmas”; Kim Tappan, art director, Lauri Clapper, editor, Michael Gimotty, publisher

The backstory behind a fast-growing, international Christmas attraction making its local debut is revealed, helping would-be visiting families appreciate the improbable beginning of the immersive holiday experience along with its impossible lights.

Silver: *TulsaKids*; “PJ’s Corner”; Betty Casey, associate publisher and editor-in-chief

Any parent who has woken up with a start at the sound of their baby *not* crying will appreciate this timely advice from a local infant health care expert — and mother of a young child— on the updated guidance on infant sleep practices and how to reduce sudden infant death syndrome.

Gold: *Atlanta Parent*; “The Holidays Sparkle With So Much Fun!”; Atlanta Parent editorial team

This survey of holiday events takes readers across the city and around the state in search of treasured family memories. Clear descriptions and contact information lets readers take action on any gems they find.

DESIGN

D1 – Front Cover: Original Photo

SMALL

Bronze: *Kern County Family Magazine*; “Becoming Pablo Picasso: Painting a Human Masterpiece”; Orlando Trevino, Ginger Lynch, LJ Radon

This cover is a surprise and requires much more than a quick glance. The lead tease and paint brush help explain what is happening. The paint color is used in the background and type, creating a harmonious color palette.

Silver: *PDX Parent*; “May 2024”; Tiffany Howard, Denise Castañon, Tiffany Hill

The cover child looks like he’s having a great time and about to burst out laughing. His barely tied boots sliding to the side and crossed arms show personality. Sophisticated typographic treatment creates a unified page, with an eye-catching lead tease.

Gold: *Giggle Magazine*; “June/July 2023”; Nicole Irving, Anibal Rodriguez, Jimmy Ho

Brightly colored clothes pop from a monochromatic background, making it hard to look away. The placement of the “super dad’s” happy face on top of *Giggle Magazine* draws attention to the fabulous nameplate. Stellar typography makes teases readable and keeps viewers on the page.

LARGE

Bronze *TulsaKids*; “September 2023”; Andrea Murphy

This clever cover idea is difficult to pull off, but it’s well done. The friendship bracelet becomes the lead tease. Its placement on top of the friends draws attention to the children with their arms around each other. The school setting fits the topic.

Silver *New York Family*; “October 2023”; Leah Mitch, Donna Duarte-Ladd

This cover is all about joy and “Family Magic.” The smiles are captivating, and the soft background provides a canvas for the playful teases. The colors speak to autumn and back to school, a perfect choice.

Gold: *DFW Child*; “August/September 2023”; Nick Prendergast, Lauren Niebes, Gary Parson

Every word and every line are perfectly placed, from the teases circling the child’s head to the nameplate behind an apple. The colors are balanced and used in different contexts. All elements lead to the subject, including their hand on their face and the apples.

D2 – Front Cover: Use of Stock Photo

SMALL

Bronze: *Colorado Parent*; “December 2023”; Amy Foreman, Alex Herring

The bundled child with snow in the hair alludes to winter activities, fitting the lead tease. The red and white of the photograph and typography draw interest to the eyes and smile. All elements circle the child’s face.

Silver: *Nola Family Magazine*; “October 2023”; Amy Foreman, Alex Herring

The soft, out-of-focus background allows the child to pop and creates space for the teases. Halloween colors from the child’s costume repeat in the typography. The nameplate draws attention by using a unique color.

Gold: *Staten Island Parent*; “May 2024”; Leah Mitch

The restrained use of typographic color creates readable teases without distracting from the subject. The child is placed so that the tilted head leads to both the nameplate and lead tease. The type is perfectly balanced around the delightful subject.

LARGE

Bronze: *Nashville Parent*; “A Safe and Sound Summer”; Susan Day, Editor & Designer, Michael Aldrich, Managing Editor

The tease, “A Safe and Sound Summer,” works with the toddler beginning to walk and teetering a bit. Typographic sizing and color leads readers from the lead tease down to the corner and back up around, circling the subject.

Silver: *Atlanta Parent*; “June 2024”; Sheri Taylor-Emery, Liz White

The title of the issue, “Summer Fun Guide,” is placed in the child’s line of sight. The title supports the photograph of the child enjoying summer. Clever design keeps interest on the page, as viewers travel from the sunglasses to the lead tease, and then continue with additional teases.

Gold: *Atlanta Parent*; “February 2024”; Sheri Taylor-Emery, Liz White

This lovely cover is unified, with all elements working together. The colors are carried from the clothing and ribbons to the teases and nameplate. The hugging arms mimic the shape of the ribbons. This photograph truly is “All About the Love,” as the tease says.

D3 – Front Cover: Illustration

SMALL

No awards.

LARGE

Bronze: *Washington Parent*; “April 2024”; Meredith Hancock

A compelling and conceptual approach to a timely and sensitive topic is a powerful and effective visual solution. The colors work well and the cover lines are easy to read contributing to a cover that is interesting, impressive and meaningful.

Silver: *TulsaKids*; “July 2023”; Annie Tyndall

A bright and colorful palette, consistent illustrations, and an interesting texture combine to create a unique and beautiful cover. Lovely graphic representations tease the content of the issue while the collage-like composition makes a very strong visual impression. It’s a visual party, a true celebration of family favorites.

Gold: *Atlanta Parent*; “October 2023”; Sheri Taylor-Emery, Liz White

Spooky silly, and fantastically fun illustrated elements create a scene that is relevant and a scene that perfectly evokes the Halloween spirit. The idea is cute and creative. The colors, graphic elements, and typography work in harmony effectively creating a frightfully entertaining experience for the readers. The illustration is a perfect example of great visual communication.

D4 – Table of Contents

SMALL

Bronze: *Washington Family*; “Table of Contents”

Photographs are cropped to attract attention, while enlarged numbers help readers correlate the images with the article. Sections are clearly delineated on the page by color and font size. White space gives breathing room at the end of the page.

Silver: *MetroFamily Magazine*; “January-February 2024”; Stacy Noakes, Erin Page, Sarah Taylor

This organized table of contents packs a lot of information in a tidy package. Dynamic photographs of people in action attract readers’ attention, and large page numbers overlapping the photographs highlight the story teases. The neat column of text creates easy navigation.

Gold: *Southwest Ohio Parent Magazine*; “March 2024”; Nicole Sipe, Katie Clark

This two-page table of contents features five photographs or illustrations per page, but the clean design and sizing makes them strong, readable anchors. Abundant white space and typographic hierarchy moves readers from the features to the departments. Playful cropping and sizing of the bunny photograph add a touch of whimsy.

LARGE

No Bronze or Silver award.

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

The delightful photographs and illustration are perfectly cropped and placed, leading readers back and forth from one image to the next. The raised heel in the illustration points directly to the corresponding tease. Elegant use of color and typographic hierarchy make for a stellar table of contents.

D5 – Use of Typography

SMALL

No awards.

LARGE

No Bronze or Silver award.

Gold: *Washington Parent*; “Preparing for Homesickness at Summer Camp”; Meredith Hancock

A fun script font is a wonderful representation of the fun and excitement associated with summer camp. The typography combines the excitement of the script with a bold and simple

sans serif creating a combination that is both legible and attractive. The typography also works well with the page's design to communicate a clear and concise message.

D6 – Interior Photography (Original)

SMALL

No Bronze or Silver award.

Gold: *Monterey Bay Parent*; “Tide Pool Time”; Dawn Alva, Beau Jackson, Andrea Breznay

The pictures pop right off the page. The use of color and creativity in the photography really stand out. There is a simplicity in the main photo that really draws the viewer in. The use of the reflection in the water was well composed and creative. These photos bring the experience of tide pooling to life.

LARGE

Bronze: No award.

Silver: *TulsaKids*; “Dig In! Photos - November 2023”; Andrea Murphy

The use of color and simplicity really stood out. All the colors in the frame blended perfectly together. The children in the photos showed personality and connection. The photos also expressed the title “Using Food and Fellowship to Learn about Other Cultures,” without saying a word.

Gold: *New York Family*; “Slice of Life”; Yumi Matsui, Donna Duarte-Ladd, Leah Mitch

The compositional framing and use of color really brought this story to life. The viewer is transported to Williamsburg Pizza. The red in each photo makes the pizza theme stand out, as well. The article talks about the importance of family, community, and connection. The photos really help convey that. Showing the personality of the subjects in each photo was a wonderful addition and connects the viewer. It also shows that a pizza party brings people together.

D7 – Single-Page Design

SMALL

No Bronze award.

Silver: *'Hood Magazine*; “Safety & Joy Around Water”; Ally Chase, Sarah Parker, Shelbi Kielhold, Jaclyn Small

Small, colorful illustrations provide multiple entry points, while bold numbers and subheads guide readers. This page effectively uses design and illustration to convey an important message about learning to swim.

Gold: *Southwest Ohio Parent Magazine*; “Places to Play in Winter”; Nicole Sipe, Katie Clark

Whimsical illustrations at the top of the page of a family making snow angels draw attention to the page. Just below, the headline and subhead perfectly fit the illustration. Small, graphic Christmas trees accent and balance the page while adding interest to the text.

LARGE

No Bronze award.

Silver: *Kansas City Parent*; “A Global Adventure in KC”; Kim Tappan, Kristina Light, Lauri Clapper, Michael Gimotty

Red subheads move readers around the page and create multiple entry points. Bold text points out locations in Kansas City that are discussed in the article. The illustration includes icons from many countries and are smartly designed in the shape of a globe.

Gold: *Atlanta Parent*; “Seven Things You Always Wanted to Know About Hanukkah”; Sheri Taylor-Emery

The illustration of the menorah and the large headline quickly communicate the story idea. The numbered questions and answers keep readers moving through the page. Complementary colors create a pleasing color scheme.

D8 – Department Design

SMALL

Bronze: *Washington Family*; “Bookmarked”; Carl Weigel

Orange subheads break sections for picture books, middle grade and teens, allowing families to enter where appropriate. Typographic contrast, used for book titles and authors, helps break up the text. Ample white space and book cover images add interest to the page.

Silver: *Baltimore’s Child*; “The Checklist”; Lonna Koblick

Engaging design and creative elements make a lively page. Photographs are used to draw attention, illustrate the concept and add whimsy to the page. Checkmarks and colorful subheads convey information quickly.

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

Stellar design makes this section a keeper. Humorous illustrations for special days – like a dancing pig, laughing popcorn box and hugging cats – make for fun reading. The tone of the design fits with the “Fun and Wacky” title.

LARGE

Bronze: *Washington Parent*; “Parenting Insights by PEP”; Meredith Hancock

Smart design packs a lot of important information into this neat package. One large photograph introduces the subject. The use of subheads and bold text help readers navigate the page.

Silver: *Atlanta Parent*; “Good Stuff, March 2024 and June 2024”; Sheri Taylor-Emery

Equally strong use of visuals and text move readers through the page. Each element draws attention to itself with excellent sizing and image choice. Blue font and details help with navigation and create a cohesive page.

Gold: *Atlanta Parent*; “For the Fridge, February 2024 and June 2024”; Sheri Taylor-Emery

Thoughtful use of visuals combined with creative type produce pages that are worthy of hanging on the fridge. While one example uses a full-page illustration with one sentence, the other shows a photograph of a laughing child and a Q&A list of jokes. Vastly different approaches produce the same impactful effect.

D9 – Calendar of Events

SMALL

No Bronze or Silver award.

Gold: *Metro Kids*; “Family Fun/Fun With Pets”; staff

Typographic hierarchy works well using color, bold, all caps and text to effectively differentiate content within a listing. Design is clean with ample line spacing and white space. Lead photo was well chosen to draw readers in, other photos and art complement the content. The breakout package of related events follows the same principles but uses a color background to highlight to highlight and separate. All of this enhances readability.

LARGE

No Bronze award.

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

An abundance of photos and art attracts eyes and complements the content. Comprehensive listings are well organized and labeled. Useful step-down typography helps readers move through the items.

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

Big, bold and colorful. Photo and art selection, cropping and generous display make this pop and helps move the reader through the lengthy calendar. Typography is clean and the line spacing improves readability. A list of contents at the opening helps get readers to the end of the calendar. And a QR code connecting online/mobile readers is a nice touch. The small dropout art injects a nice bit of white space throughout the listings.

D10 – Event Highlights

SMALL

Bronze: *Washington Family*; “Top 5”; Carl Weigel

Themed “Top 5” pages create variety from issue to issue. The varied font sizes and use of bold draw attention to the most important elements, including the title, location and website. A single dominant image anchors the page.

Silver: *Monterey Bay Parent*; “The best of our events calendar”; Andrea Breznay, Summer Romney

The oversized numbers and typographic hierarchy help with navigation. Colorful and relevant art adds interest, always with one dominant image. Each entry is packaged neatly – from the number to the date and title, to the information and URL.

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

Illustrations and photographs are used creatively and sized to draw attention to the events and news sidebar. Color labeling highlights dates and key facts. White space is well used to balance a page with several images.

LARGE

No awards.

D11 – Feature Layout

SMALL

Bronze: *MetroKids*; “How Much Is The National Teacher Shortage Affecting Pennsylvania?”; Lonna Koblick

Stately graphic elements, a strong type treatment, and a conceptual photographic element effectively communicate a national problem and the dire need for a solution. The typography and design are sophisticated and serious. The color palette is subtle and the use of photography is creative. From start to finish the design sets and maintains the perfect tone.

Silver: *Giggle Magazine*; “Super Dads 2023”; Nicole Irving, Anibal Rodriguez, Jimmy Ho

Beautiful photography is the clear super hero when it comes to these super dads and this feature layout. The subtle backgrounds and consistent page designs are both influential and complementary in creating a wonderful sense of visual hierarchy. Each page is a superb celebration of fatherhood and great design.

Gold: *Frederick's Child*; “What Type of Camp Will Your Child Like?”; Lonna Koblick

Colorful paint splatters and doodles are perfect visual representations of childhood and summer camp experiences. The photography, typography, and graphic elements are all beautifully integrated and communicate a sense of pure joy and excitement. This feature is an inspiring example of how relevant and appropriate design decisions can elevate a story.

LARGE

Bronze: *TulsaKids*; “Uniting Hearts and Abilities”; Annie Tyndall

Bold colors and geometric shapes combined with photographs of some very special champions immediately grab the attention of the reader and draw them into the story. The page designs are appropriate, interesting, and consistent. Overall, the layout and design maintain a great sense of excitement and celebration throughout the feature.

Silver: *Northeast Ohio Parent*; “Adventures In Bloom”; Northeast Ohio Parent designers

A big, bold and beautiful photo of a sunflower paired with an exciting type treatment preface a fantastic floral adventure. Lively graphic elements and complimentary color choices add a heightened level of amusement to the page designs. This daring feature design includes a resourceful list, crafts, a recipe and information on sunflower festivals, providing the reader with a plethora of information in an interesting and impressive manner.

Gold: *DFW Child*; “Overstimulated Mom”; Sean Parsons

The visually stimulating photo-illustration and graphically stimulating type treatment are a perfect combination when communicating the idea of overstimulation. The color choices are extremely relevant and appropriate to the subject matter as well as the brilliant visual effect. The stimulating graphic elements and treatments are carried throughout the feature design driving home the message and resulting in a feature design that is pure gold.

D12 - Special Section

SMALL

Bronze: *Neapolitan Family*; “2024 Camp Guide”; Jane MacNealy Stacy Nicolau, Andrea Stetson, Kerrie McLoughlin

The grid lists are well done with ages, dates, type and phone numbers. Type is large enough for easy reading. Color is also key for the labels and titles above the individual camp summaries. Type is clean, and the ragged right injects some needed white space. A nice touch is a color icon to designate camps that accommodate kids with special needs. A strong photo is played well to lead off the story on preparedness for parent and child.

Silver: *Hood Magazine*; “Familyfest Fun Cruise”; Stephanie Holtrop, Ally Chase, Sarah Parker, Shelbi Kiethold, Solis Photography

The section is an interesting example of connecting readers to local businesses and institutions. The use of color to identify age groups and geographic areas makes it relatively easy for readers to find the places and events that best suit them. The large map helps readers plan their route. Typography is clean and readable. The photos emphasize family fun.

Gold: *Chesapeake Family Life*; “Maryland Summer Fun Guide”; Lonna Koblick

The summer fun guide kicks off with a large, bold, airy art and typography display that visually backs up its opening theme of shoreline fun. The artwork is also clean, attractive and captivating for the “Walkable Small Towns,” “Gaming Safety,” “Camping for Beginners,” “Playgrounds With Personality,” cooking apprenticeship and brunch packages. As strong as the art is, the content is superbly packaged with breakouts and sidebars. Typography is clean, hierarchically solid. The color palette complements the themes throughout

LARGE

Bronze: *Kansas City Parent*; “Summer Fun Guide”; Kim Tappan, Lauri Clapperk, Michael Gimotty,

Color, shapes and photos deliver a playful summertime vibe. “Safety First,: :Prepared for Fun,” “Near and Far” and “List of Ideas” are eye-catching tips and ideas for readers. Good and generous use of bullet lists. Colorful thumbnail images help readers navigate the content. The “Parade of Hearts” photo package is a nice closing item.

Silver: *TulsaKids*; “Fall Family Fun Guide”; Annie Tyndall

Bold fall colors dominate the design. Typography is simple and effective, line spacing is generous and the slightly askew headlines are playful. Photo selection is strong and enhances the spirit of the package.

Gold: *Atlanta Parent*; “Summer Fun Guide 2024”; Sheri Taylor-Emery, Liz White

The sun and surf color palette serves the package well. The pastels provide an easy to navigate and read typography. Dozens of photos provide content and energy to the layout. The design leaves no doubt that there is plenty to do in summer in and around Atlanta. There is a comforting consistency to typography and design yet leaves room for a free stuff breakout and bucket list checklist.

D13 – Overall Design

SMALL

Bronze: *Baltimore's Child*; Baltimore's Child staff

The page designs are straightforward, presenting readers with an abundance of information and content on each and every page. The organization is logical and easy to follow with page designs that are clean with clear typographic hierarchy. The feature designs are creative and unique and the photography is informative and fun. The overall design is a fine example of successful and dynamic design.

Silver: *Hood Magazine*; Steffanie Holtrop, Ally Chase, Sarah Parker, Jaclyn Small

The smaller format evokes a wonderful keepsake mentality. The overall design plays well within the smaller confines using a simple and consistent sans serif font as the base and beautifully designed type treatments for the headlines. While the type designs provide a splash of excitement, the photography is remarkably complimentary creating an overall visual experience that is sensational from cover to cover.

Gold: *Monterey Bay Parent*; Andrea Breznay, Marlena Mareka, Marina Drukman

The covers are colorful and engaging with unique designs and photography pertaining to summer camps, gardening, and swimming. Each issue executes a superb sense of organization and delights the readers with a strong sense of visual hierarchy within each page design. The overall attention to detail is great and the use of color, illustrations and creative type solutions help to produce a publication and overall design that truly stands out.

LARGE

No Bronze award.

Silver: *Atlanta Parent*; Sheri Taylor-Emery, Liz White

Unique color combinations, lovable and lovely photography and a dependable cover line style contribute to note-worthy covers that pop. Each issue is organized well and the design maximizes the amount of content on each page. The use of color and art add moments of visual intrigue throughout a publication that is educational and entertaining.

Gold: *Kansas City Parent*; Lauri Clapper, Michael Gimotty, Kim Tappan

A holiday portrait, dreamy dress-up and illustrations of local attractions celebrate parenthood in a fun and inviting way. Typography and frequent illustrative art solutions are creative and colorful bringing a sense of excitement to the layouts. The photography is beautifully executed and is consciously incorporated into the designs. The information is presented clearly and in a consistent manner, while moments of creative brilliance add a remarkable level of engagement and delight.

ANCILLARY PUBLICATIONS

AP1 - Ancillary Cover

Bronze: *Monterey Bay Parent*; “Military Parent 2024-25”; Marlena Mareka, Andrea Breznay

The photo immediately conveys the theme of the publication and directs attention to the child. The color palette of the typography complements the photo while effectively steering the reader to the various story teases.

Silver: *Atlanta Parent*; “Education Viewbook 2024”; Sheri Taylor-Emery, Liz White

A dynamic illustration filled with school-related iconography bursts across the page and creates a nice sense of motion. The limited color palette makes the pencil stand out even more while still creating a nice sense of unity.

Gold: *Kansas City Parent*; “KC Baby & Maternity, Spring 2024”; Michael Gimotty, Lauri Clapper, Kim Tappan

The technically superb photo puts the viewer right up close to the tiny baby swaddled in soft textures. Subdued type colors blend perfectly with the photo and contribute to the overall intimate feeling, while keeping focus on the baby’s face and hand. The end result is a quiet moment that invites the viewer to linger and enjoy.

AP2 - Ancillary Overall Writing

No Bronze Award.

Silver: *Kansas City Parent*; “Going Places”; Kristina Light, Lauri Clapper, Michael Gimotty, Kim Tappan

This is a section parents will keep year-round for great ideas on where to go when children get bored. The section includes seasonal ideas, as well as newly opened places, old favorites and even has a “thrill” category. Detailed information leaves no surprises for parents.

Gold: *Bay Area Parent*; “Education and Enrichment”; Janine DeFao, Sarah Lyons, Jill Wolfson Janeen Lewis, Sandra Harris

This is the modern parent’s guide for back-to-school, including AI chatbots in the classroom and eco-friendly lunches. Lots of practical tips on when a tutor might be needed and how to foster the DIY child, which includes listings for “maker spaces” in the Bay Area.

AP3 – Ancillary Overall Design

Bronze: *Kansas City Parent*; “Kansas City Going Places”; Kristina Light, Lauri Clapper, Kim Tappan, Michael Gimotty

Sea turtles, baseball, sky-diving, and so much more, the photography and design do a fantastic job in presenting the abundant attractions and adventures that Kansas City has to offer. Typography and color are used effectively to create a great sense of organization providing the readers with easy navigation and useful interaction.

Silver: *Bay Area Parent*; “Summer Survival Guide”; Jill Wolfson, Staci Stedman-Morris, Janine DeFao, Teresa Mills-Farauto

The cover design is bright, exciting, and fun. The photography and typography make a splash, working well together to capture the attention of the reader. The page designs are consistent and simple with little pops of color and intriguing graphics that add to a well executed and remarkable visual experience.

Gold: *DFW Child*; “DFW Baby”; Sean Parsons

A wonderful variety of page designs and a beautiful range of typographic combinations make for an outstanding and engaging read. The designs are appropriate and impressive utilizing color and graphic elements in all of the right places. The photography and art is cute, adorable and contributes to a “just can’t get enough of this” essence. This essence makes this design a clear and obvious winner.

DIGITAL MEDIA

DG1 - Blog/Bloggers

SMALL

No Bronze or Silver award.

Gold: *MetroFamily Magazine*; “Weekend Warrior”; Erin Page, Lindsay Cuomo, Emiley Bainbridge

The actual experiences of the writers elevate this blog to a testimonial with promises about *why* a family should give this idea or that place real consideration. The bloggers aren’t just tossing out things that kids interested in STEAM or fashion might like, or what parents could consider to keep kids busy. They have been there *and* done that, with engaging stories, descriptions and images to back up what they are saying.

LARGE

No Bronze award.

Silver: *Kansas City Parent*; “Things To Do In Kansas City”; Kristina Light, Michael Gimotty

The blog is a sharply crafted resource for parents not just looking for things to do, but also who may need ideas on making their roles a bit simpler or more understandable. A photo journey through special exhibits or experiences, reviews of local theater offerings; suggestions on how to better work with your kids - all of this works together to create a comprehensive look at what Kansas City has to offer. Crisp and inviting photography and imagery enhance the browsing experience, and smartly-curated suggestions about specific areas of the city offer ideas for short or long outings for a wide variety of interest.

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

The personal touch of the writer’s own experiences - good, bad, everything in between - help this blog feel more like a cozy chat with a trusted friend or family member. The writer doesn’t shy from vulnerability in talking about being a sister-turned-advocate for a brother with disabilities, or a child dealing with the lasting effects of losing her parents. She does so with a voice that doesn’t tell people how they should navigate life, but to let them know they’ve got at least one person who’s been there and gets it.

DG2 – Short-Form Video

SMALL

No Bronze award.

Silver: *Nola Family Magazine*; “Audubon Aquarium (TikTok)”; Madison Voorhies, Amy Foreman

With a variety of footage filmed on the scene, this TikTok video effectively takes viewers through a day’s adventure at the aquarium. The voiceover narration adds useful context and details.

Gold: *PDX Parent*; “Hidden Creek West/Monkey Park Reel (Instagram)”; Meg Asby

Beautiful video quickly helps the Instagram audience discover an interesting park that many of them might not know about. The voiceover is particularly good, conveying a friendly and personal tone that feels authentic and honest.

LARGE

No awards.

DG3 - E-Newsletter

SMALL

Bronze: *Washington Family*; “Digital Magazine”; staff

Simplicity is the name of the game with this entry, with a simple menu of offerings for a variety of interest areas. Whether it’s ideas for things to do as a family or how to make mom and dad feel special in May and June or a closer look at who’s featured on the magazine cover, the newsletter gives a good selection of options, while gently reminding readers there’s more to find if they want it.

Silver: *Chesapeake Family Life*; “Thursday Event Newsletter”; staff

The newsletter is a neat snapshot of what the community has to offer and when, and the information on the other side of the links is clear, simple and useful. The inclusion of articles that go beyond just things to do gives this newsletter an added dimension for families who may need something beyond suggestions for activities.

Gold: *Baltimore’s Child*; “Camp”; staff

Summer camp is a highlight for a lot of kids, current and former, and what this newsletter offers is nothing less than a complete and comprehensive “how-to, where-to, what-to” guide on ensuring families have the tools they need to pick an experience for their kids. Readers can get a good look at what each camp could do for their kids to help them make decisions, aided by a good selection of photography to complement each experience.

LARGE

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

The newsletter balances a good selection of what is going on in the area with not overwhelming readers with too many ideas. Bold photographs attract the eye, and there’s enough information under each headline to inform the reader what is being offered. It also covers a good variety of interest areas, be it holiday light displays, Hawks games, outdoor hiking or indoor learning.

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

The way each newsletter caters to specific dates and seasons really highlights its ongoing utility for its readers. It also excels at not just giving lists of possible activities, but as in the case of giving museum ideas, the writer goes a step further to try and offer help to allow everyone in the family to enjoy an activity. The “Contests and Giveaways” are a fun and simple way to bring readers into the fold and add an element of fun and creativity that they themselves can bring to the publication.

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

The weekly editor’s notes are the highlight of the newsletter, giving each publication a personal and familiar touch. The writers show a keen understanding of myriad issues that might be of interest and concern to families and offers relevant guidance and information. At the same time, the offered ideas and activities show an awareness of communities and cultures and interests outside the magazine’s geographic area, inviting people to expand their horizons and learn about and enjoy a broader scope of life.

DG4 – Social Media, Single Platform

SMALL

No Bronze or Silver award.

Gold: *Nola Family Magazine*; “Instagram”; Madison Voorhies, Amy Foreman

Visually-driven Instagram posts align with the platform’s norms and position the publication as lively and fun. An array of templated designs maintain some consistency while also allowing for variety and human connection. The material is fun and interactive.

LARGE

No Bronze award.

Silver: *TulsaKids*; “Facebook”; Tara Rittler

This Facebook presence provides a welcome stream of timely announcements related to things to do around town with kids. Original photos add to the utility of the posts. Good follow-up from staff to foster interaction in the comments helps build connection between readers and the publication.

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

Instagram reels are used well to present popular material such as the weekly “Things to do this Weekend” and also bring to life feature content from the magazine. Photo carousels and static graphics further convey useful stories and information as appropriate. Attractive template designs create a distinctive look and feel for the publication over time.

DG5 – Social Media, Overall Strategy

SMALL

No Bronze award.

Silver: *Nola Family Magazine*; Madison Voorhies, Amy Foreman

Tailoring similar material to the unique parameters of Instagram and Facebook helps the publication engage audiences in both places while presenting a unified brand presence. Visually-driven posts and reels on Instagram showcase vibrant imagery, while Facebook posts focus more on story links to drive traffic to the publication’s website along with conversation-starting prompts to encourage interaction.

Gold: *PDX Parent*; Meg Asby, Tiffany Hill

High-quality, short-form video and smart curation has helped the publication attract more than 58,000 followers across its social channels. Sponsored giveaways on Instagram generate revenue along with thousands of entries from readers. TikTok videos feature a great, authentic, first-person tone that feels appropriate to the platform.

LARGE

No Bronze or Silver award.

Gold: *Nashville Parent*; Susan Day, editor & writer, Alexandra Day, digital strategist

Daily Instagram stories provide a curated mix of memes, video, images and events, while the Facebook page offers a steady stream of story links interspersed with conversation starters to get people talking and sharing.

GENERAL EXCELLENCE

GE1- Best Redesigned Publication

No Bronze award.

Silver: *Baltimore's Child*; staff

The consistently strong writing is carried even higher with a new design that relies heavily on brand iconography and vibrant splashes of color. The move to a sans serif fonts for headlines makes it easy for readers to read at a glance before diving into the full feature. The publication's signature directories are well organized and establish the magazine as a premier resource in its market.

Gold: *Monterey Bay Parent*; Andrea Breznay, Marlena Mareka, Summer Romney, Marina Drukman

A full re-fresh brings substantial changes to both the editorial content and design. The covers are bold and sport an updated typography that telegraphs a cleaner, more modern style. Crisp and colorful visuals attract the readers to fresh reporting that features stronger, more engaging writing that informs while it entertains.

GE2- Ancillary General Excellence

SMALL

No Bronze award.

Silver: *PDX Parent*; "Welcome Guide 2023"; Denise Castanon, Tiffany Hill, Tiffany Howard, Rose Caudillo, Jill Weisensee

The designers of the Welcome Guide demonstrated their ability to create an engaging pocketbook style guide that was easy to follow, easy to read and truly piqued interest for the areas highlighted under the "If you like categories." They also used the insets strategically with visually appealing colors and consistent shapes that made it feel cohesive throughout the guide.

Gold: *Monterey Bay Parent*; "Military Parent"; Andrea Breznay, Andrea Forester, Jessica Thibault, Marlena Marika

The writers and designers did a great job ensuring this publication remains true to its intended audience. Credit goes to the fine storytelling and ample resources that are well-tailored for an audience seeking ways to integrate into the community.

LARGE

Bronze: *Atlanta Parent*; "Education Viewbook 2024"; Liz White, Sheri Taylor-Emery, Atlanta Parent Editorial Team

This publication did a great job of catering to its intended audience of families. The publication was formatted to feel more like a resource guide, which is helpful for those on the go.

Silver: *TulsaKids*; "College Planner"; Betty Casey, Annie Tyndall

The articles in this publication were comprehensive, well-organized and flowed well. There was a nice balance of editorial content, ads and sponsored content.

Gold: *DFW Child*; “DFW Baby”; Amanda Collins Bernier, Sean Parsons, Lauren Niebes, Joy Niebes, Elizabeth Smith

The editorial team did a wonderful job of showcasing their editorial skills and design skills in this publication. The content was not only engaging, the visual breaks and placement of the guides featured throughout the magazine enhanced the look and navigation.

GE3 – Website General Excellence

SMALL

No awards.

LARGE

No Bronze award.

Silver: *Kansas City Parent*; Kristina Light, web editor, Michael Gimotty, owner

The *KC Parent* website does an excellent job of foregrounding events for children happening in the Kansas City area. The interactive calendar on the homepage allows users to intuitively plan activities months in advance, and seasonal articles provide a wealth of ideas for parents on how to enrich and entertain their children.

Gold: *New York Family*; Donna Duarte Ladd, Executive Director, Content Strategy, Jeannine Cintron, Editorial Director, Kaitlyn Riggio, Digital Editor

Despite providing a wealth of information directly on the homepage, *New York Family*'s site is still easy to navigate. The site's calendar is expertly curated, and its articles provide easy-to-use information for parents in the city.

GE4 - General Excellence

SMALL

Bronze: *PDX Parent*; Denise Castanon, Tiffany Hill, Tiffany Howard, Rose Caudillo, Jill Weisensee.

This magazine has a satisfying mix of content that hits a lot of buttons, from travel to summer camp to the arts, with one issue devoted to theater, painting classes and more. Packages consistently have a strong set of entry points for a range of readers. The look is bright, upbeat and friendly, aptly representing the remarkable city where the audience lives.

Silver: *Baltimore's Child*; staff

This resource-rich publication puts a premium on valuable, relevant stories told from a heartfelt, human perspective. In “Fostering Care: A Path to Adoption,” for example, a family that has fostered more than 150 children illustrates a happy solution to a persistent need. The magazine knows how to have fun, too. Do black cats really have a lower adoption rate? What makes Baltimore a pickle destination? The magazine's design makes good use of space, and visuals give the publication a contemporary look.

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

This publication benefits from an eclectic, engaging collection of stories — from inspirational first Americans to ways families can slow climate change. It has one of the most comprehensive guides to community activities and services, plus pages of activities for children of all ages and interests. The covers are compelling, the contents page is nicely organized, and photographs add real value to the stories. The magazine works well on all levels, from text to editing to design.

LARGE

Bronze: *New York Family*; Donna Duarte-Ladd, Leah Mitch, Jeannine Cintron

This stylish publication has a broad vision and covers a lot of bases. The content in each edition adopts an original, contemporary perspective. “The Future of IVF in New York,” for instance, latches onto a breaking-news topic and spins it locally. “Millennial Dads” develops a trend but wisely looks at it from a variety of perspectives. Overall, design is beautifully consistent and easy to manage, organization is reliably efficient, and the total package is a real asset to its readership.

Silver: *Washington Parent*; Ronel Hentschel, Karen Kullgren, Meredith Hancock, Liam McCrickard

This publication is clearly working to give readers a lineup of stories that are relevant, imaginative and full of information. “Sharenting — When Parents Over-share their Kids’ Lives,” helps eager parents put on the brakes with practical, considerate guidelines; “A More Adventurous Approach to Education” explores learning styles to capitalize on a child’s strengths; and a themed issue about mental health covers a range of subjects from types and treatment to the influence of Tik Tok. Each issue delivers sensible, as well as inspiring, narratives with attention to different ages and stages. Covers are engaging, the contents page is attractive and artfully arranged, the design is balanced, and visuals are effectively chosen and presented.

Gold: *DFW Child*; Joylyn Niebes, Lauren Niebes, Amanda Collins Bernier, Sean Parsons, Elizabeth Smith

This is an extremely engaging publication with a powerful voice and forward-looking content. Topics push readers into new ideas and adventures. A particular edition, for example, may offer reports about health, child development, books, food, education and art; a cover feature on letting kids fail to stimulate growth; and an array of family-friendly activities. Any concern a parent might have is likely to be covered in this bright, thoughtful, well-planned magazine.