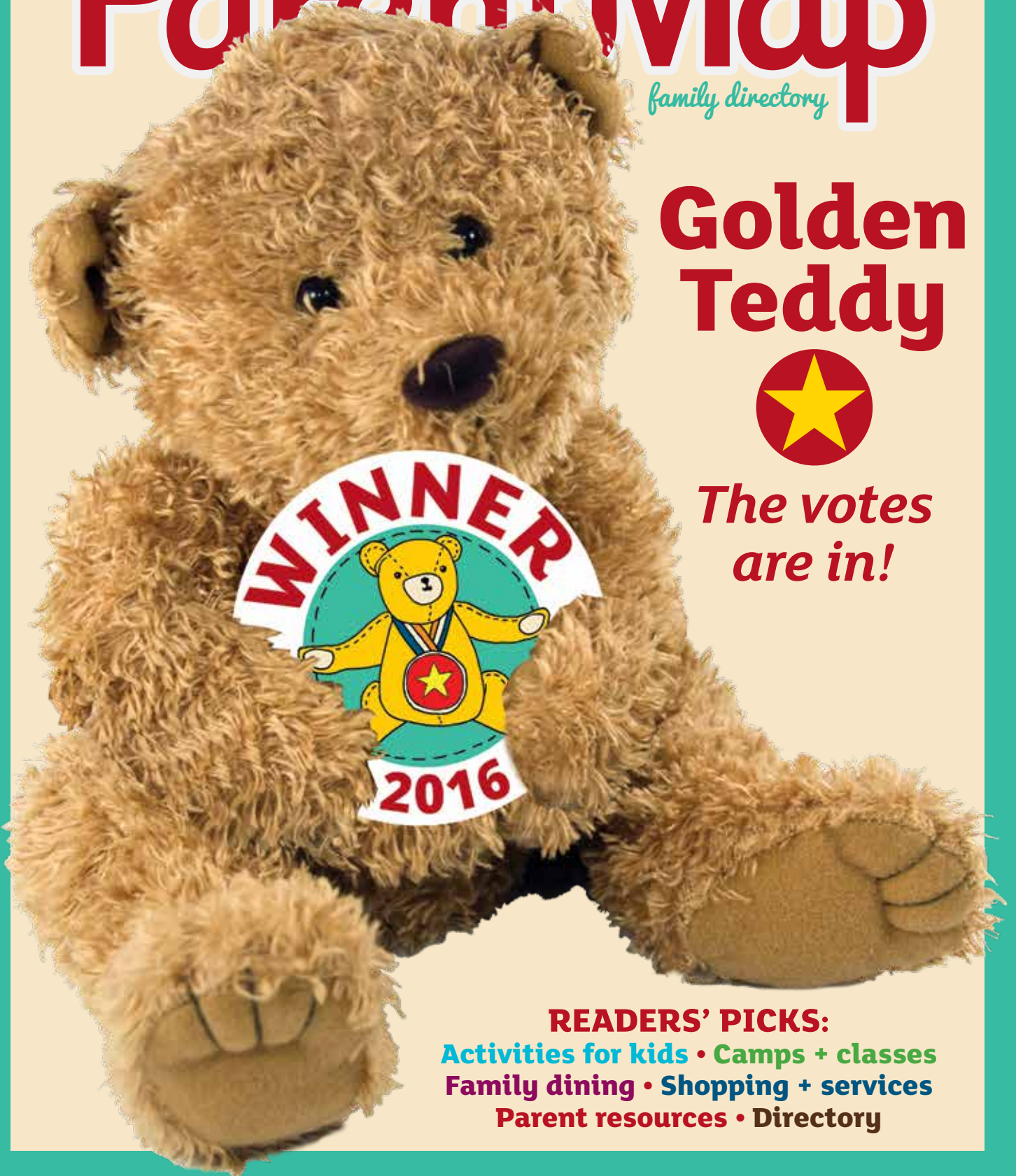


parentmap.com/golden-teddy

ParentMap

family directory



Golden Teddy



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are in!*

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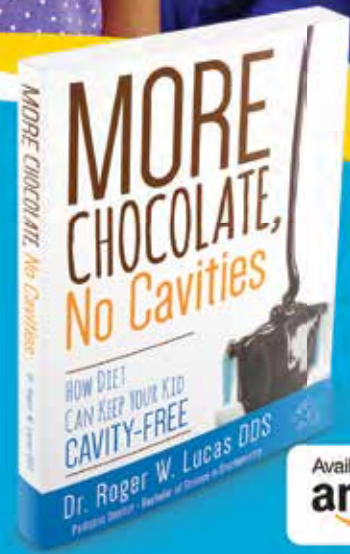
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family directory



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ILLUSTRATIONS BY ALLI ARNOLD

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GOLDEN TEDDY AWARDS**

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We know how important a sweet doughnut shop and a gentle dentist are. That's why *ParentMap* asks you every year for your favorite resources, camps, classes, shops, grub, groups and professionals. We know that you are the experts on where the family dollar is best spent and where service goes above and beyond.

We've tallied your votes, read your (passionate!) reviews, and checked out all the places you love best.

Because you, the parents of Puget Sound, do know best.

We present here the **2016 Golden Teddy Award** winners and finalists. Find your favorites, discover new secrets, share with your friends and tell us what you think by connecting with us on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram using **#GoldenTeddy**. We'd love to see a picture of your family enjoying one of these favorite places, goodies or services! For complete coverage of winners and finalists, go to **parentmap.com/golden-teddy**.

Golden Teddy 2016 was written by Nancy Schatz Alton, Nancy Chaney, Rory Graves, Elisabeth Kramer, Elisa Murray and Nicole Persun.



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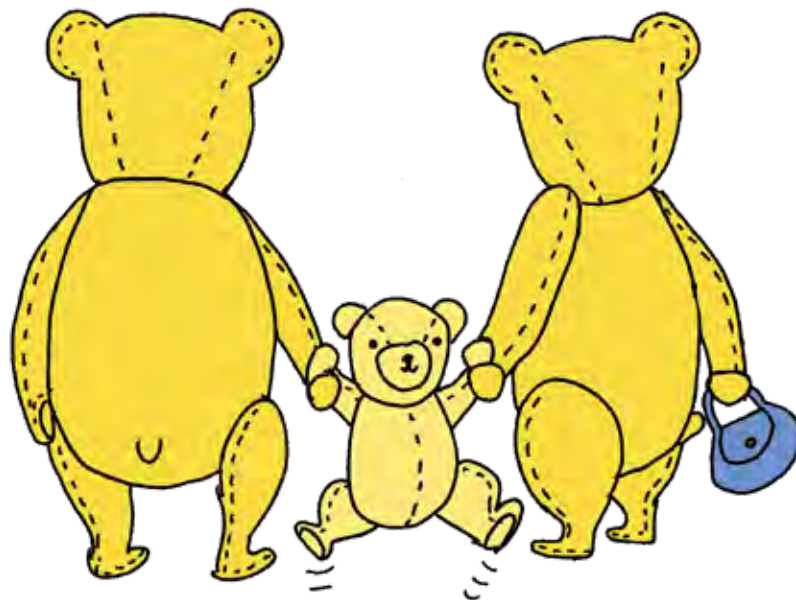


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ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS

Ready, set, get out of the house! No matter the weather or the season, Puget Sound parents are all about making the most of our natural and cultural environments, which means that we are always looking for the newest park, the most kid-friendly hike or the most engaging museum exhibit. You, readers, also love sharing tips about activities — evidenced by the passionate votes we get for this category every year. So, get out your pen and summer calendar and mark these down.



LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

★ **Winner: Caspar Babypants**

Anybody else experiencing déjà vu? **Caspar Babypants** (babypantsmusic.com) takes the top spot once again. That's no surprise considering his devoted following and always entertaining performances of original music as well as Beatles covers. Don't miss one of Caspar Babypants' live shows (often free); if you're lucky, he might compose a new song on the spot!

BABYPANTSMUSIC.COM



Finalists

Don't let the word "children's" fool you; **Seattle Children's Theatre** (SCT; sct.org) has something for the whole family, no matter your age. One of the city's best theater companies (and recognized as one of the top children's theaters in the nation), SCT produces consistently excellent and entertaining shows. The upcoming season includes the classic *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe*.

Seattle's self-proclaimed "funniest and most kid-friendly magician," **Xakary the Magician** (xakary.com) puts on one magical show! See a preview of his work during his *America's Got Talent* audition (found on YouTube), during which he saws host, model and mom Heidi Klum in half!

Kirkland-based **StoryBook Theater** (storybooktheater.org), a branch of Studio East, is known for its original, musical versions of classic tales such as "The Emperor's New Clothes" and "The Boy Who Cried Wolf." The productions are also short, affordable, interactive and perfect for children ages 3–10. The troupe travels to seven venues around Puget Sound.

RAINY-DAY REFUGE

★ **Winner: Pacific Science Center**

Pacific Science Center

(pacificsciencecenter.org) offers more than nifty-looking arches. Indoors, you'll find a butterfly house, hands-on fun at the Tinker Tank and plenty of other interactive exhibits.

Outside, try the water wheel and high-rail bicycle for some summertime fun. This summer's big highlight is the blockbuster Lego exhibit *The Art of the Brick*.

Finalists

Open six days a week, **Roo's World of Discovery** in Kirkland (roosworldofdiscovery.com) takes the loud noises and bright lights out of play, offering families a low-sensory haven in a beeping, buzzing world.

Fans of **KidsQuest Children's Museum** (kidsquestmuseum.org) love the variety offered by this Bellevue destination. Highlights include a giant train table and pipe fountain station (for all those budding civil engineers in the audience). Note: KidsQuest is moving to downtown Bellevue in January 2017.

Located in Factoria Mall, Bellevue's indoor wonderland **Funtastic Playtorium** (funtasticplaytorium.com) is ideal for children ages 1–10. Funtastic fans rave about the colorful indoor space, ball blaster arena and interactive soft play spot for little ones. Can you say "exhausted, happy kids"? >>



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activities for kids



continued from page 9

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Ages 3 & UP

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TOURIST-IN-YOUR-OWN-TOWN ACTIVITY

★ Winner: Pike Place Market

Pike Place Market

(pikeplacemarket.org), the oldest continuously operating public market in the United States, continues to be a top attraction for visitors and locals. It's got buskers, cheesemakers, flower sellers, fish throwers — as well as a warren of shops devoted to the most arcane of interests, from records to magic. New this year: a weekly evening market on Wednesdays and a real old-time soda fountain, Shug's, on First Avenue.

Finalists

Not convinced that looking at a bunch of rushing water can be fun? Think again. Officially known as the Hiram M. Chittenden Locks, the **Ballard Locks** (ballardlocks.org) celebrates its birthday this July 4. Picnic on the lovely park grounds and marvel at the vessels making their way through the locks. If you're lucky, you'll spot a salmon or two at the fish ladder.

Wonders abound at **Seattle Center** (seattlecenter.com). With festivals, fountains and museums galore, this frequently visited hub of Seattle makes day tripping easy. The latest kid-friendly addition is the parking lot turned playground Artists at Play (near EMP), with its crazy-tall climbing tower and musically inclined play structures.

Of course, one of Seattle Center's crown jewels is **Pacific Science Center** (pacificsciencecenter.org). There's something for any schedule, whether you want to play inside or out. Recent and upcoming IMAX showings range from the breathtaking (*Galapagos 3D*) to the blockbusting (*Finding Dory*). If a movie doesn't appeal, check out one of the many engaging interactive exhibits, including the famous Tropical Butterfly House.



Lynnwood Recreation Center pool

WATER PLAYPARK, POOL + WATER ADVENTURE

★ **Winner: Lynnwood Recreation Center**

A reader sums up why **Lynnwood Recreation Center** (www.ci.lynnwood.wa.us/PlayLynnwood/RecCenter.htm) wins this category year after year: “Warm water, slides, water guns, lazy river, family hot tub . . . what more could a kid want?” Add to that an even warmer therapy pool and private family changing rooms and you can see why this is one of the most popular community pools around. Also awesome: You can buy tickets for a public swim session online up to two weeks in advance.

Finalists

With its convenient (and very obvious) location right off Interstate 5 in Federal Way, **Wild Waves and Enchanted Village's** (wildwaves.com) epic water slides and roller coasters offer a summer siren song to overheated families that happen to be driving by. With more than a dozen water attractions, there is one to fit every age, ability and comfort level (don't miss the Mountain Dew triple slide complex, added in 2015), and when you're tired of the water, head to the amusement park rides for more thrills.

For epic water play all year long, our readers adore **Great Wolf Lodge** (greatwolf.com/grand-mound) in Grand Mound, where — once you're done careening down rides like the Howlin' Tornado or the River Canyon Run in the 60,000-square-foot water park — you can settle into your own room for the night; some guest rooms even come with a miniature log cabin in the suite! Next morning, roll out of bed and do it all over again. Don't miss super activities that don't involve water, such as the MagiQuest adventure game and a glow mini golf course.

Located in one of the Eastside's most culturally diverse neighborhoods, **Crossroads Park's** spray playground (ci.bellevue.wa.us) has an enchanting Northwest theme: Kids can splash among a climbable orca, spitting frogs and clams, among other spray features. And if some members of your crew want a break from water play, the park also includes a playground, walking trails, covered picnic shelters and even a nine-hole golf course. >>



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activities for kids



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REMLINGER FARMS

U-PICK + FAMILY FARM

★ Winner: **Remlinger Farms**

The word "farm" doesn't quite describe the hive of family fun that is **Remlinger Farms** (remlingerfarms.com), a 350-acre property in Carnation. With a petting zoo, pony rides, amusement rides, a steam train, U-pick berry fields (in the summer) and U-pick pumpkin patch (in the fall), Remlinger offers something for everyone, and then some.

Finalists

The beautiful Snohomish River Valley is the setting for **Bob's Corn, Maze and Pumpkin Farm** (bobscom.com), another favorite family destination, especially in the fall. Pick a peck of pumpkins in the 30-acre patch, shop at the country market, get lost in the 10-acre corn maze, or reserve one of 18 (!) fire pits in the maze for an unforgettable fall gathering.

The only problem with taking your kids to **Fox Hollow Farm** (foxhollowfamilyfarm.com), located in the shadow of Squak Mountain in Issaquah, is that they will beg to go back immediately. Founded as an equestrian center, Fox Hollow offers a full slate of activities, including a petting zoo (lambs! miniature goats! piglets!), pony rides, playhouses, a tractor track (just try tearing your kids away from driving their very own vehicles), as well as sweet concessions and lovely picnicking along the creek. Summer camps and parties are also available.

Stop by **Oxbow Farm and Conservation Center** (oxbow.org) on one of its Family Fun Days and you'll get much more than a fun day outside. The 25-acre farm in Carnation, which grows vegetables, fruits and berries and runs a robust community-supported agriculture program, is all about educating visitors about sustainable farming in an engaging way. Wander the fields, take a self-guided tour and let the kids play in the Living Playground. In the fall, stop by to pick a gorgeous heirloom pumpkin. Or grow yourself a farmer by sending your kid to an Oxbow summer camp.

PARK OR PLAYGROUND

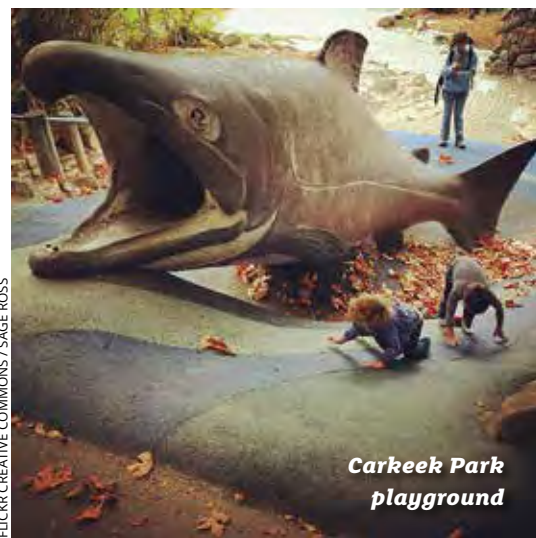
★ Winner: **Carkeek Park**

Wind your way down to **Carkeek Park** (seattle.gov/parks/environment/carkeek.htm) and enter another world — 220 acres of woods, beach and creek that add up to one of Seattle's most extraordinary natural treasures. Young kids adore the salmon slide at the playground, the train-watching opportunities and the beachcombing. Older kids will love rambling around the trails above Piper's Creek or watching the salmon fight their way down the creek every fall. There's even an apple orchard.

Finalists

Whether your kid's preferred summer activity is hiking, mountain biking, swimming or playing on a shady, castle-themed playground, 350-acre **Saint Edward State Park** (parks.state.wa.us/577/Saint-Edward) has something to offer. Located on the grounds of a former Catholic seminary, the park is threaded with miles of trails, many of which lead to Lake Washington shoreline, which beckons one to take a dip on a hot day.

Located on the north end of Lake Sammamish in Redmond, 640-acre **Marymoor Park** (kingcounty.gov/services/parks-recreation) is a perfect outing when you need a different activity for everyone in the family. From a rock-climbing wall to bike trails, playgrounds and even a velodrome for track bike racing, the range of activities is legendary. Look for movies and concerts in the summer, too. Even your pooch can get in on the action: Marymoor has a 40-acre dog park that some refer to as "Doggy Disneyland." ★



Flickr Creative Commons / Sage Ross

Carkeek Park playground

activities for kids

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT

★ **Winner: Caspar Babypants**

FINALISTS:

Seattle Children's Theatre
Xakary the Magician
StoryBook Theater
KidsQuest Children's Museum
Recess Monkey
Evan's Family Variety Show

GEEK FAMILY ACTIVITY

★ **Winner: Pacific Science Center**

FINALISTS:

Imagine Children's Museum
KidsQuest Children's Museum
Hands On Children's Museum
Mox Boarding House
Seattle CoderDojo
Northwest Art Center,
Gadgeteers Club

RAINY-DAY REFUGE

★ **Winner: Pacific Science Center**

FINALISTS:

Roo's World of Discovery
KidsQuest Children's Museum
Funtastic Playtorium
WiggleWorks Kids
Sky View Observatory

WATER PLAYPARK, POOL + WATER ADVENTURE

★ **Winner: Lynnwood Recreation Center**

FINALISTS:

Wild Waves and Enchanted Village
Great Wolf Lodge
Crossroads Park
Mountlake Terrace Recreation Pavilion
Northacres Park (spray park)

U-PICK + FAMILY FARM

★ **Winner: Remlinger Farms**

FINALISTS:

Bob's Corn, Maze and Pumpkin Farm
Fox Hollow Farm
Oxbow Farm and Conservation Center
Mercer Slough Blueberry Farm
Carpinito Brothers
Mountainview Blueberry Farm
Larsen Lake Blueberry Farm

BIRTHDAY PARTY VENUE + RESOURCE

★ **Winner: Pump It Up**

FINALISTS:

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The Little Gym
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KidsQuest Children's Museum
SkyMania Trampolines
WiggleWorks Kids

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★ **Winner: Girl Scouts of Western Washington**

FINALISTS:

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Seattle Tilth
KidsQuest Children's Museum
Eastside Baby Corner
Food Lifeline
Mary's Place
Northwest Art Center

CLASSIC PUGET SOUND ANNUAL HOLIDAY OR SEASONAL EVENT

★ **Winner: Snowflake Lane at the Bellevue Collection**

FINALISTS:

WildLights at Woodland Park Zoo
Garden d'Lights at Bellevue Botanical Garden
Gingerbread Village at Sheraton Seattle Hotel
Winterfest at Seattle Center
Argosy Cruises' Christmas Ship Festival
KidsQuest Children's Museum
Gingerbread Workshops
Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade
Teddy Bear Suite at the Fairmont Olympic Hotel

TOURIST-IN-YOUR-OWN-TOWN ACTIVITY

★ **Winner: Pike Place Market**

FINALISTS:

Hiram M. Chittenden (Ballard) Locks
Seattle Center
Pacific Science Center
Argosy Cruises
Sky View Observatory



PARK OR PLAYGROUND

★ **Winner: Carkeek Park**

FINALISTS:

Saint Edward State Park
Marymoor Park
Grass Lawn Park
Luther Burbank Park
Maple Leaf Reservoir Park
Miner's Corner County Park
Funtastic Playtorium
Meadow Crest Playground

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★ **Winner: King County Library System**

FINALISTS:

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FREE FUN

★ **Winner: Green Lake Park**

FINALISTS:

Golden Gardens Park
Discovery Park
Bellevue Square
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See the full write-up at parentmap.com/golden-teddy

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CAMP FOR KIDS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

★ **Winner: Camp Korey**

Families of kids with serious medical conditions love **Camp Korey** (campkorey.org) and the carefree fun and games it offers on a huge farm on the Eastside. Founded by the father of a teenage boy who died of cancer, Camp Korey aims to let children forget about their illnesses for a week and turn their focus on the adventure and joy of being a kid. Medical personnel on staff support campers as they partake in activities such as boating, horseback riding, arts and crafts, and stage night. Your votes for Camp Korey flowed in, showing your appreciation for this special place and its support of kids and families.

Finalists

Kids with special needs get a warm and enthusiastic welcome at **Camp Sealth** (campsealth.org) on Vashon Island, with staff working to tailor the quintessential summer camp experience to each child, whatever a camper's abilities and desires might be. We're pretty sure that for most kids, this means having fun with friends and trying new things; your votes affirm that Camp Sealth is successfully providing this for all kinds of campers.

Your votes piled up for Seattle's **School of Acrobatics and New Circus Arts** (SANCA; sancaseattle.org) and its unique programs in circus arts, such as acrobatics, trapeze and more. You love that SANCA occupies a special and

CAMPS + CLASSES

Here in the Northwest, we are serious about our kids' enrichment opportunities. We keep their schedules full of classes, camps and learning opportunities. Lucky for us, it's easy to make great choices about their activities when we have so many fantastic options. All of this serious scheduling is to ensure that the kids have the chance to uncover their passion. Will it be music, soccer, science, nature, theater or something else? Think of all the fun they'll have as they find out.



FACEBOOK.COM / CAMP KOREY

needed space where physical activity and sport are not competitive; here, the environment is open, empowering and fun. SANCA's classes are open to everyone and its Every Body's Circus individual coaching program is a good fit for students needing special attention.

The **Outdoors for All Foundation** (outdoorsforall.org) understands the transformative power of outdoor recreation, and so do you. You voted by the dozen in support of Outdoors for All's programs, which get children (and adults) with disabilities out skiing, kayaking, river rafting, rock climbing and more. What started as a skiing program for a handful of kids now reaches several thousand individuals each year, thanks to the dedication of hundreds of volunteers.

ART, DANCE, THEATER + MUSIC PROGRAM + CAMP

★ **Winner: Sunshine Music Together**

A multiyear Golden Teddy winner, **Sunshine Music Together** (sunshinemusictogether.com) tops your collective list among local arts programs for kids. Mixed-age parent-and-tot classes develop natural music appreciation in young children, and you like that the program integrates singing, instruments, movement and play. The catchy, fun songs appeal to kids and grown-ups alike, and you appreciate the engaged, dedicated instructors. "Teachers are lively, inspired and want to give

SUNSHINEMUSICTOGETHER.COM



the gift of music,” said one pleased voter, and another liked that the classes helped music become a part of their family’s regular weekly routine. Sunshine Music Together offers regular classes in multiple locations, including Seattle, Lynnwood and Redmond.

Finalists

Seattle’s **Illumination Learning Studio** (*illuminationlearningstudio.com*) earned your votes for its variety of arts-focused programs, including piano and guitar instruction, performing and fine arts classes, and themed summer camps. One voter commended the “great teacher” who is “passionate about teaching.” In addition to classes and camps, Illumination offers before- and after-school programs with transportation, a preschool program, and parent-and-tot classes at its multiple North Seattle outlets.

Roaring Mouse Creative Arts Studio (*roaringmouse.org*) lets kids explore creative expression in their own manner and at their own pace, and your votes indicate you’re roaring with approval. This neighborhood studio in Seattle offers classes, camps, workshops, kids’-night-out sessions and birthday parties. Roaring Mouse programs highlight the link between play and art.

Your votes indicate you think the world of the Russian-influenced dance instruction at **Emerald Ballet Theatre** (*emeraldballet.org*) in Bellevue. The school focuses on classical ballet, but also teaches other genres of dance, including character, modern, hip-hop and others. The school welcomes both boys and girls, as well as students with special needs, and offers levels ranging from pre-ballet for preschoolers up to rigorous instruction for aspiring professional dancers.



PACIFICSCIENCECENTER.ORG/CAMPS

Pacific Science Center Camp

STREM CAMP (science, technology, robotics, engineering and math camp)

★ **Winner: Pacific Science Center**

The venerable **Pacific Science Center** (*pacificsciencecenter.org*) earned scores of your votes for its camps focused on STREM topics, including marine science, cooking, medicine, robotics and even the chemistry of candy! You gushed over the “awesome, intriguing science curriculum” that has campers studying the center’s resident critters (think naked mole rats), connecting science and cooking, or learning the science behind solving crimes. Kids dig the creative and hands-on nature of camps; you love your kids’ huge love for science. A wide array of camps welcomes kids from pre-K through high school. Camps meet in nine Puget Sound–area locations.

Finalists

Everyone wants their kids to have a leg up in today’s competitive world, and your votes show you like the advantage offered by Bellevue’s **Russian School of Mathematics** (RSM; *russianschool.com*). RSM provides after-school and summer math enrichment programs, plus tutoring and test prep for kids, from kindergartners through high



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school students. RSM employs a traditional Russian- and European-influenced approach to help students excel. Clearly, it's working well for your kids.

Girls Rock Math (girlsrockmathematics.com) earned heaps of your votes for its unique camps that make math real — and really fun — for girls. Campers in grades 1–6 build confidence and friendships while using math together with the arts to dig into crafts, painting, gardening, fashion and more. Fun-sounding camp titles include “Crafty Math,” “Math-Magical Garden” and “Super Spirals and Fabulous Fractals.” Girls Rock Math offers its weeklong day camps at nine Seattle-area and Eastside locations.

Hands On Children's Museum (hocm.org) in Olympia lives up to its name, giving kids lots of opportunities to create, build, touch, tinker, dig, play, stack, drop, mix, craft and investigate with their hands, minds and bodies. All this rolled into a week of camp? According to your votes, you love it. Summer and school-break camps integrate STREM topics with camps called “Little Bots,” “Circus Science,” “Geology Rocks” and “Tinker Tech.” Camps welcome kids from age 3 to grade 4 in half- and full-day sessions.

ATHLETIC CAMP + PROGRAM

★ **Winner: Arena Sports**

Among team sports for Northwest kids, soccer is tops. You are loving **Arena Sports'** (arenasports.net) soccer programs, such as Lil' Kickers, which orients children as young as 18 months to the world's most popular game. Instruction and opportunities for play continue for a range of ages, from toddlers to adults, and include camps, skills classes and youth and adult leagues. Arena Sports also offers active “School's Out” camps, which include playtime on the field and in the inflatable FunZone. Arena Sports' Issaquah location offers an outdoor summer camp as well as swimming lessons. In addition to Issaquah, Arena Sports has locations in Seattle and Redmond.

Finalists

Your votes stacked up for **Seattle Gymnastics Academy** (seattlegymnastics.com), showing your love for the serious training taking place at the academy's gyms. Professional instructors encourage the development of balance, strength and motor skills. But don't bother the kids with developmental reasons; they're too busy jumping

in the foam pit, traveling the tumble track and having loads of fun. Seattle Gymnastics teaches kids from toddlers up to competitive gymnasts — both boys and girls — through classes and camps its four Seattle gyms.

The Little Gym (thelittlegym.com) knows kids and the fact that most of them rarely stop moving their bodies. You are enthusiastic about The Little Gym's ability to focus this energy into developing sports skills, coordination and having fun, as demonstrated by your votes. The Little Gym's 11 Puget Sound-area locations make it super convenient and fun for your kiddos to explore movement, gymnastics, sports skills and karate.

The youth sports league organization **i9 Sports** (i9sports.com) fills a special niche, and your votes show your appreciation for it. i9 Sports aims to keep the focus on fun and skill building for kids, rather than on competition. For families, i9 Sports fits into busy lives by requiring only one session per week, typically a combined practice and game. Local outlets serving the Eastside and North Sound areas offer leagues in soccer, baseball, basketball and flag football.

OVERNIGHT CAMP

★ **Winner: Camp Gallagher**

Your votes poured in for **Camp Gallagher** (campgallagher.org) and its confidence-building overnight camps for middle school and high school kids. Campers engage in typical summer camp activities, including boating, crafts, camp fires and playing on the beach. Kids also employ self-determination in planning their own group excursions. In a testimonial on Gallagher's website, one camper described her experience this way: “Summer stripped down to its purest



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A boatload of votes for **Camp Sealth** (campsealth.org) paddles in every year, making it a mainstay in a number of Golden Teddy categories. For almost 100 years, campers have reveled in all the best summer camp activities, including arts and crafts, horseback riding, water fun, campfires, sports and more — plus the opportunity to build new friendships, a stronger character and life skills. You love the “super-supportive, well-trained staff;”

and how well they care for all campers’ needs. form — water, trees, sunshine, friendships, freedom, adventure.” Campers also carry on insider traditions, such as the Lemming Run. Camp Gallagher is located near the town of Lakebay on South Puget Sound.

Finalists

Did your kids gush about their experiences at Duvall’s **Wilderness Awareness School** (wildernessawareness.org), or did you just notice something in their eyes? Either way, this revered organization’s programs serve as a powerful antidote to the lack of nature and exploration in many kids’ daily routines. The school teaches kids to appreciate — and survive in — the wild. Day camps and programs for young kids begin with basic skills while overnight camps and expeditions for teens impart serious skills, survival techniques and self-confidence. One voter lauded the school’s programs like this: “Cool camps in the woods led by real naturalists!”

and how well they care for all campers’ needs.

YMCA’s **Camp Orkila** (camporkila.org) welcomes campers entering grades 3–12 to its scenic spot on Orcas Island, where fun and adventure await. Parents appreciate not only the beautiful location and the amazing staff, but also how well run this camp is, with one voter proclaiming that “the Y is completely dialed in on all facets of coordination, education and fun.” Kids love Orkila’s traditional camps as well as specialty weeks, with themes ranging from horseback riding to digital media to skateboarding.

NATURE + ENVIRONMENTAL CAMP

★ **Winner: Wilderness Awareness School**

Your votes crowned Duvall-based **Wilderness Awareness School** (wildernessawareness.org) king of this popular category, and it’s not the first time. The school delivers a variety of programs and camps for kids and adults, including day camps for young kids focused on basic skills, and overnight camps for teens that teach serious wilderness survival techniques. Exploring nature and acquiring confidence through learned skills and self-reliance are the hallmarks of all Wilderness Awareness School programs. It takes a special staff to lead these programs; one voter raved that “the people involved with this organization are the most genuine and wise people on the planet.” No wonder you want your kids rubbing shoulders with them. >>



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Finalists

You love how **Pacific Science Center** (pacificsciencecenter.org) connects kids to nature, even from its home in the middle of the city. It's hard to count the ways in which Pacific Science Center endeavors to spread science and wonder to kids all across our region — through its after-school programs, camps, field trips, mobile workshops, teen programs and more. Kids love the “creative” and “hands-on nature” of classes and camps. It's so fun, there's no need to remind them they're learning.

At nearly 100 years old, **Camp Sealth** (campsealth.org) continues to delight 21st-century kids, and your votes show it. One voter enthused that Camp Sealth “supports kids in trying new things, building social skills and connecting to the outdoors,” all in “an oasis away from city worries.” Located on Vashon Island, Sealth's beautiful, natural setting includes forest, wetland, beach, meadow and more. Touch tanks, nature hikes and lessons about the solar system keep kids active and engaged.

Oxbow Farm and Conservation Center (oxbow.org) in Carnation isn't a camp with a little vegetable garden; it's a real, working farm supplying CSA (community-supported agriculture) customers and restaurants with locally grown produce. You love that your kids come for camps and field trips to get a close-up view of where food comes from, to participate in what it takes to get food from the dirt to our tables, and to munch on the farm's delicious bounty, of course. ★

camps + classes

SWIMMING CAMP + CLASS

★ **Winner: YMCA**

FINALISTS:

Mountlake Terrace Recreation Pavilion
Seattle Parks and Recreation Aquatics
Safe N Sound Swimming
Pro Sports Club
Stroum Jewish Community Center
SwimGuru

CAMP FOR KIDS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS

★ **Winner: Camp Korey**

FINALISTS:

Camp Sealth
School of Acrobatics and New Circus Arts (SANCA)
Outdoors for All Foundation
Camp Prov

ART, DANCE, THEATER + MUSIC PROGRAM + CAMP

★ **Winner: Sunshine Music Together**

FINALISTS:

Illumination Learning Studio
Roaring Mouse Creative Arts Studio
Emerald Ballet Theatre
Three Dragons Academy
Steve & Kate's Camp

STEM CAMP (science, technology, robotics, engineering and math camp)

★ **Winner: Pacific Science Center**

FINALISTS:

Russian School of Mathematics (RSM)
Girls Rock Math
Hands On Children's Museum
KidsQuest Children's Museum
Steve & Kate's Camp

ATHLETIC CAMP + PROGRAM

★ **Winner: Arena Sports**

FINALISTS:

Seattle Gymnastics Academy
The Little Gym
i9 Sports
Starfire Sports
Stroum Jewish Community Center

INFANT + TODDLER CLASS

★ **Winner: The Little Gym**

FINALISTS:

Woodinville Toddler Group
KidsQuest Children's Museum
Sunshine Music Together
Sponge Language School
Circle of Art Studios

OVERNIGHT CAMP

★ **Winner: Camp Gallagher**

FINALISTS:

Wilderness Awareness School
Camp Sealth
Camp Orkila
Camp River Ranch
Camp Robbinswold
Camp St. Albans

NATURE + ENVIRONMENTAL CAMP

★ **Winner: Wilderness Awareness School**

FINALISTS:

Pacific Science Center
Camp Sealth
Oxbow Farm and Conservation Center
Camp River Ranch
Camp Robbinswold

AFTER-SCHOOL + LEARNING ENRICHMENT OPPORTUNITY

★ **Winner: Russian School of Mathematics (RSM)**

FINALISTS:

Wilderness Awareness School
Illumination Learning Studio
KidsQuest Children's Museum
Sponge Language School
Circle of Art Studios



FAMILY CAMP

★ **Winner: Camp Gallagher**

FINALISTS:

North Cascades Institute
Camp Sealth
Camp Seymour
Camp Robbinswold



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FAMILY FOOD + DINING

As our readers well know, it takes more than a few crayons to make a restaurant family-friendly. But where are those elusive spots with menus that adults love as much as kids? And what about pizza, treats, ice cream, frozen yogurt and coffee? We asked, you answered.



Red Robin

REDROBIN.COM

PIZZA JOINT

★ Winner: Mod Pizza

If you're craving a slice, readers say, pick your pie at **Mod Pizza** (modpizza.com). This, you guessed it, modern pizza place has 10 locations in the Seattle metro area, including restaurants in Bothell, Redmond and Sammamish. Don't expect delivery, however. Mod believes pizza is best straight from the oven, whether that's yours or Mod's (its boxes supposedly keep pizza warm for 20 minutes).

Finalists

Homegrown favorite **Pagliacci Pizza** (pagliacci.com) first opened on the University District's famous Ave way back in 1979. In the nearly four decades since then, Pagliacci has expanded to more than 20 locations throughout Seattle and the Eastside (including three on the University of Washington campus). There's more to this pizza joint than good eats, however. Read up on its pizza-tossing parties for a creative birthday celebration that will make a mini chef out of your kid.

Founded in Columbia City in 2004, **Tutta Bella Neapolitan Pizzeria** (tuttabella.com) has

set up shops in Seattle, Bellevue and Issaquah, giving the masses traditional Neapolitan pizza (read: wood-fired with no fancy toppings). It's got the paperwork to back up its tradition, too. Ask about the Associazione Verace Pizza Napoletana for a quick Italian history lesson.

Sometimes you've just got to go with a classic, right? Readers think so, making **Papa Murphy's** (papamurphys.com) a finalist. The chain has plenty of locations for picking up its take 'n' bake pizza, with stores throughout western Washington, including one as far west as Aberdeen.

KID-FRIENDLY RESTAURANT

★ Winner: Red Robin

We've got three words for you: bottomless steak fries. **Red Robin** (redrobin.com) claims first place for overall best restaurant, and we have a hunch those fries have something to do with it. You'll have plenty of chances to have some for yourself, because Red Robin has more than 40 locations in Washington state. Find the bird as far north as Bellingham and as far east as Spokane. >>



Mod Pizza's many pies

MODPIZZA.COM



continued from page 21

Finalists

Go Greek at **Vios Café & Pub** (vioscafe.com). With locations on Capitol Hill and in Ravenna, Vios offers traditional Mediterranean fare with fans particularly craving the lamb skewer, spanakopita and galaktoboureko (that's creamy custard in flaky phyllo). Families also rave about the play areas, which keep kids busy.

Elliott Bay Brewing Company (elliottbaybrewing.com) in Lake City claims a spot in the finals (also find locations in West Seattle and Burien). Readers highlight the traditional pub fare (fish and chips, burgers and beer), ample space and laid-back, if oft busy, setting. "Always lively [and] family-friendly," notes one happy customer.

A 10-minute walk from Woodland Park Zoo, **Phinney Market Pub & Eatery** (phinneymarketpub.com) gets plenty of foot traffic from families. Look for the train table and kid-friendly eats, which include Sriracha Parmesan chicken tenders and mac and cheese.

TREAT SHOP

🌟 **Winner: Top Pot Doughnuts**

Dozens of doughnut-crazed votes came in for Seattle darling **Top Pot Doughnuts** (toppotdoughnuts.com). Famous for its hand-forged goods, Top Pot got its start 14 years ago in a small brick store on North Capitol Hill. Now you can find Top Pot throughout the area, with cafés in Tukwila, Bothell and beyond.

Finalists

Self-proclaimed home of "Seattle's most celebrated cupcakes," **Trophy Cupcakes** (trophycupcakes.com) features plenty of delectable, kid-friendly flavors, including cookies and cream, snickerdoodle and s'more. Trophy also keeps an eye on the latest themes (think Captain America, Minions and sparkly unicorns).



Top Pot Doughnuts

TOPPOTDOUGHNUTS.COM

You won't get just cupcakes at this Seattle favorite. **Cupcake Royale** (cupcakeroyle.com) also scoops up house-made ice cream. Can you say "sugar rush"? The 13-year-old bakery also bills itself as the first cupcakery to open outside of New York City. "You can imagine that many of

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our friends and neighbors didn't know quite what to expect," the company says of those early days.

Mighty-O Donuts (*mightyo.com*) offers organic fare because, as the company puts it, "It makes sense." Mighty-O got its start at Seattle's University District Street Fair in May 2000; now it has storefronts in Green Lake, Ballard and on Capitol Hill.

ICE CREAM OR FROZEN YOGURT SHOP

★ Winner: Molly Moon's

With six locations and cool flavors like Stumptown coffee and vegan coconut strawberry, it's no surprise that **Molly Moon's** (*mollymoon.com*) wins our ice cream category yet again. If its fabulous flavors aren't enough of a treat, the ice creamery sources 90 percent of its ingredients from the Pacific Northwest!

Finalists

What's not to love about DIY frozen yogurt? **Menchie's** (*menchies.com*) is a long-standing family favorite, with more than a dozen locations around the Puget Sound region, tons of flavors and toppings, plus no-sugar, vegan and gluten-free options.

Full Tilt Ice Cream (*fulltilticecream.com*) may be old school with its pinball machines and other arcade games, but its ice cream is totally 21st century: gourmet flavors, vegan options and more.

With freshly made flavors and decadent mix-in options, **Cold Stone Creamery** (*coldstonecreamery.com*) has it all. Kiddos will enjoy watching their creations come together as skilled hands fold in their selections (gummy bears and sweet cream ice cream, anyone?) on an icy granite stone. >>



Molly Moon's

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food + dining

continued from page 23



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FRESH FOOD Grocery store, market or farmers market

★ **Winner: Trader Joe's**

What do you want in a grocery store? Free samples and coffee? Affordable prices? Family staples and fun gourmet snacks? We aren't surprised that our readers love to go to **Trader Joe's** (traderjoes.com) for its fresh selection because this fun grocery store checks everything off the shopping list.

Finalists

PCC Natural Markets (pccnaturalmarkets.com) features a homegrown atmosphere, "Kid Picks" labeling and more than 10 Seattle-area locations. With its fresh produce and a convenient prepared-food section, we totally understand why Pacific Northwest parents love PCC.

For busy local parents, **Fred Meyer's** (fredmeyer.com) "one-stop" shopping is essential, but the best part is Freddy's Playland: free one-hour child care, so you can zip through the aisles solo and indulge in a moment (or two!) of peace.

We all know the magic of **Whole Foods** (wholefoodsmarket.com). According to one reviewer, it's a great choice for Pacific Northwest parents for two essential reasons: the "friendly, genuine staff" and the "excellent, wide variety of items." We're sold!

KID-FRIENDLY COFFEE SHOP

★ **Winner: Starbucks**

With a location on almost every street corner, **Starbucks** (starbucks.com) is a favorite for caffeine-crazed parents. This hometown hero is consistent and convenient, and its drive-throughs are a lifesaver on those really busy mornings.

Finalists

Fuel up on espresso and house-made goodies at **PlayHappy Café** (formerly PlayDate Café; playhappycafe.com) while your kids let loose in the 2,000-square-foot play space. PlayHappy also hosts parties, provides preschool and offers classes!

Green Bean Coffeehouse (greenbeancoffee.org), in Greenwood, serves quality coffee and has tons of seating, plus a train table. It's also a nonprofit dedicated to community development.

Coffee connoisseurs will love that **Issaquah Coffee Company** (issaquahcoffee.com), nestled in the charming Gilman Village, uses Stumptown coffee beans. Kids will love the play area, which includes a train track! ★



TWITTER.COM/STARBUCKS

family food + dining



PIZZA JOINT

★ **Winner: Mod Pizza**

FINALISTS:

Pagliacci Pizza
Tutta Bella Neapolitan
Pizzeria
Papa Murphy's
Zeeks Pizza
Ridge Pizza

KID-FRIENDLY RESTAURANT

★ **Winner: Red Robin**

FINALISTS:

Vios Café & Pub
Elliott Bay Brewing
Company
Phinney Market Pub
& Eatery
PlayHappy Café
Chuck E. Cheese's
Ballard Pizza
Company, Frelard
McDonald's

TREAT SHOP

★ **Winner: Top Pot Doughnuts**

FINALISTS:

Trophy Cupcakes
Cupcake Royale
Mighty-O Donuts
PinkaBella Cupcakes
Grateful Bread Bakery
Hello Robin Cookies
Stuffed Cakes

ICE CREAM AND FROZEN YOGURT

★ **Winner: Molly Moon's**

FINALISTS:

Menchie's
Full Tilt Ice Cream
Cold Stone Creamery
Bluebird Microcreamery
& Brewery
Baskin-Robbins
Yogurtland
Peaks Frozen Yogurt Bar

See the full write-up at parentmap.com/golden-teddy

FRESH FOOD

Grocery store, market
or farmers market

★ **Winner: Trader Joe's**

FINALISTS:

PCC Natural Markets
Fred Meyer
Whole Foods
Ballard Farmers Market
Metropolitan Market
Central Co-op
Columbia City Farmers
Market

FOOD TRUCK

★ **Winner: The Ultimate Melt**

FINALIST:

The Box on Wheels

CROSS-CULTURAL EATS

★ **Winner: Crossroads Bellevue Food Court**

FINALISTS:

Din Tai Fung
Pho Hoa
Punjab Sweets

KID-FRIENDLY COFFEE SHOP

★ **Winner: Starbucks**

FINALISTS:

PlayHappy Café
Green Bean Coffeehouse
Issaquah Coffee Company
Dubsea Coffee
Tougo Coffee Co.

DATE-NIGHT DESTINATION

★ **Winner: Alki Café**

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SHOPPING + SERVICES

From baby's first car ride home from the hospital to that first big-kid haircut and those teeny-tiny ballet slippers for fledgling dancers, even minimalist parents find themselves on the hunt for the best baby and kid gear. We've gathered your votes for the best stores and services that support your families. Read on for the places that offer the quality customer service and selection that parents want, all picked by you, our savvy readers!

KIDS' CLOTHING + CONSIGNMENT SHOP

★ Winner: Jack & Jill Consignment

There's no disputing the consensus among readers that the thrice-yearly **Jack & Jill Consignment** sale (thejackandjillsale.com) is "the best sale of its kind" in the area. The sales, held at the Lynnwood Convention Center, feature stylish baby and kids' clothing, gear, furnishings and more. "If you go to only one consignment sale, make it this one!"

parentmap.com/golden-teddy

Finalists

To paraphrase Macklemore: "This is freaking awesome!" Savvy shoppers need not stray too far from home to find a **Goodwill** (seattlegoodwill.org) store; there are 24 retail thrift stores in the region. Sales help support the organization's mission to provide free job training and education to those in need.

Just Between Friends sales (jbfale.com)

offer gently used, affordable children's and maternity items for green-minded parents. Locally owned and operated events are held two or three times a year. "You know you are not just saving money, you're passing on your dollar to help another family," says one reviewer.

Located in Seattle's Greenwood neighborhood, **Childish Things** (childishresale.com) sells previously owned high-end kids' clothes from preemie to size 8 along with maternity clothes and baby gear. "It's so well-organized, and there's even a play area to entertain my son while I shop. Win-win!"



SHOPPING FOR BABY

★ Winner: Amazon

Parents know that even simple things, like a trip to the store, can take twice as long and require twice the prep with a baby in tow. Readers rave about the convenience of **Amazon** (amazon.com). From subscription discounts to baby registries, the famous online marketplace makes it easy to keep a well-stocked supply of all the essentials.

Finalists

With its trendy yet affordable clothing, gear and furnishing options and a well-stocked baby aisle, **Target** (target.com) just might save your back from multiple rounds of car-seat schlepping. If you haven't attended a **Just Between Friends** sale (jbfale.com) yet, put it on your calendar! Save on lightly used baby and maternity items and feel good that you're reducing your carbon footprint.

Babies"R"Us (babiesrus.com), with its many locations, broad selection and simple registry options, also earned high marks. You praised the top-notch customer service. "I love shopping here and always leave satisfied." >>



continued from page 27

OUTDOOR + TRAVEL GEAR

★ Winner: REI

The Pacific Northwest may be the land of casual dress codes and software engineers, but there's one area where our taste gets a bit snooty: outdoor gear. **REI** (*rei.com*), whose flagship store is located in Seattle, won by a landslide for its excellent selection and quality products. "This is the place you want to go to find whatever it is you need, think you need or didn't realize you needed," says one reviewer.



Finalists

Baby-wearing parents laud **Ergobaby** (*store.ergobaby.com*) for its ergonomic designs and quality baby carriers, an essential for those outdoor walks with baby.

Kelty (*kelty.com*) garners praise for its kids' gear, which has as many bells and whistles as the adult version. "No flimsy cartoon-themed crap — just quality, kid-sized gear," writes one happy camper.

TOY STORE

★ Winner: Top Ten Toys

A longtime favorite and multiyear Golden Teddy winner, **Top Ten Toys** (*toptentoy.com*) features a broad selection of thoughtfully curated toys that promote learning and creativity. This local establishment also offers a play area and a friendly staff, with a mission to "keep healthy play alive."



TOPTENTOYS.COM

Finalists

With locations in Bothell, Kenmore and Redmond, **Snapdoodle Toys** (*snapdoodletoys.com*) allows families around the Sound a chance to explore educational and imaginative toys. "Warning: It's so easy to lose track of time in this place," says one parent. And don't worry about becoming parched while exploring; Snapdoodle offers a complimentary latte or cup of tea to shoppers, along with free gift wrapping. Now that's service! >>



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shopping + services

KIDS' CLOTHING + CONSIGNMENT

★ **Winner: Jack & Jill Consignment**

FINALISTS:
Goodwill
Just Between Friends
Childish Things
Gap Baby and Kids
Small Threads for Kids

SHOPPING FOR BABY

★ **Winner: Amazon**

FINALISTS:
Target
Just Between Friends
Babies"R"Us
Snapdoodle Toys
Gap Baby and Kids
Bootyland
Baby Diaper Service
KidsQuest Children's
Museum's ExploreStore
buybuy Baby

OUTDOOR + TRAVEL GEAR

★ **Winner: REI**

FINALISTS:
Ergobaby
Kelty

TOY STORE

★ **Winner: Top Ten Toys**

FINALISTS:
Snapdoodle Toys
Rent the ToyChest
White Horse Toys
Just Between Friends
KidsQuest Children's
Museum's ExploreStore

KIDS' HAIR SALON

★ **Winner: The Salon at Kids Club**

FINALISTS:
Crossroads Kids Salon
Li'l Klippers
Sharkey's Cuts for Kids
Bella and Max
Brat Pack Salon
Columbia City Cuts
Epic Barber Shop

See the full write-up at
parentmap.com/golden-teddy

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continued from page 29

Rent the ToyChest's (rentthetoychest.com)

tagline asks an intriguing question of any parent sick of sorting through a child's forgotten toys: "Why buy when you can rent?" Try it for yourself by browsing online and requesting a selection of toys for a given time, which is the perfect way to mix up those "I'm bored" days.

Featuring a variety of unique toys for all ages, **White Horse Toys** (whitehorsetoys.com), in Issaquah, is touted for its quirky charm and knowledgeable staff. "The space is really well-organized, which I think is important because toy stores can be really overwhelming," says one reviewer.

Our region's **Just Between Friends** sales (jbfale.com) give parents and kids the opportunity to buy and sell used toys and books, along with other household items and clothes. Help your kiddo gather up all the pieces of that Lego set she has built a dozen times, sell it at a sale and invest the earnings into a new-to-her toy or book. Everybody wins!

KIDS' HAIR SALON

★ Winner: **The Salon at Kids Club**

Haircuts and wiggly children — what could possibly go wrong? Parents may find themselves pleasantly surprised by the experience at **The Salon at Kids Club** (salonkidsclub.com) in Seattle's University Village. "The staff is friendly and patient!" says one reviewer. "They also offer toys and treats to the kids — and a balloon when we're done!"

Finalists

A salon inside a toy store? It's almost as if Disney conceived **Crossroads Kids Salon** (facebook.com/CrossroadsKidsSalon), situated inside Crossroads Toys in Bellevue. "A great place for kids' haircuts, from the cute cars they sit in to the toys they can play with," says a happy customer.

Located in the heart of Wallingford, **Li'l Klippers** (lilkippers.com) caters to kids with handcrafted wood salon chairs shaped like animals and vehicles, along with toys to keep tots entertained. "This place is perfect for kids!" raves one happy parent. ★



The Salon at Kids Club

ELISA MURRAY



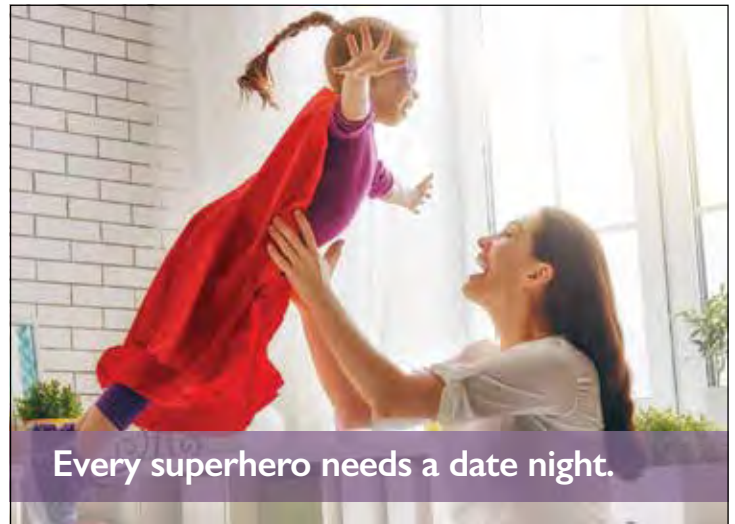
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Bellevue Montessori School, 425-454-7439
Eton School, 425-881-4230
Eyas Global Montessori School, 425-358-5151
Forest Drive Montessori, 425-818-0244
International Montessori Academy, 425-223-5798
Living Montessori Education Community, 425-373-5437
Montessori International School of Bellevue, 425-698-1378
The Eastside Montessori School, 425-213-5629

Bellingham

Childlife Montessori School, 360-671-3380
Gardenview Montessori, 360-527-9638

Bonney Lake

Bonney Lake Montessori, 253-862-8599

Bothell

Red Door Montessori, 425-743-3667
Whole Earth Montessori, 425-486-3037

Bothell & Woodinville

Woodinville Montessori School, 425-482-3184

Bremerton

Discovery Depot Montessori, 360-337-1400

Brier

Brier Montessori School, 425-483-5455

Burien

Three Trees Montessori School, 206-242-5100

DuPont

Children's Village Montessori, 253-964-2545

Eastsound

Orcas Montessori School, 360-376-5350

Edmonds

Olympic View Montessori, 425-640-0746

Enumclaw

A Country Garden Montessori, 360-825-8886

Everett

Montessori Schools of Snohomish County, 425-355-1311
Small World Montessori, 425-338-7771

Federal Way

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Evergreen Christian Montessori School, 253-942-7564
Montessori Academy at Spring Valley, 253-874-0563

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Kenmore

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Mukilteo

Harbour Pointe Montessori School and
Early Learning Center, 425-438-8888
Mukilteo Montessori School, 425-743-4667

Newcastle

Newcastle Montessori Children's House, 425-224-3923

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Cinquagraneli Montessori, 206-706-0803
Discovery Montessori School, 206-282-3848
First Notes Musikgarten & New Song w/Music & Art Preschool
Sessions, 206-524-5086
Kidus Montessori, 206-720-0523
Learning Tree Montessori, 206-324-4788
Montessori Garden, 206-524-8307
Northwest Montessori School, 206-524-4244
Practical Montessori Preschool, 206-858-1731
Sunnyside Montessori, 206-725-5756
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Community Montessori, 253-627-7554

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PARENT RESOURCES

Where do we find our proverbial village — the people and places that weave the net of support for us and our children? From drop-in child care to nannies to support groups and top doctors, having a reliable network of support is invaluable. Check out the parent-picked resources voted for by you, our readers.

DROP-IN CHILD CARE LOCATION

★ Winner: YMCA

It's fun for kids and parents at the **YMCA** (*ymca.net*): Family-membership holders receive two hours of complimentary child care per day at every location (except the downtown Seattle locale). Members can drop off their children while they increase their heart rate and lower their stress level, or even attend to work emails thanks to free Wi-Fi. Caveat: You must remain on site while your child is at day care. Age range is usually from infants to tweens, but check with your local branch, as specifics do vary.

Finalists

Readers are pleased with Seattle's **Penny Pumpernickel Pants Playcare** (*pennypumpernickelpants.wordpress.com*), which puts play-based learning first while offering nutritionally balanced lunches and snacks, outside time, yoga instruction and a well-stocked reading nook. "You feel the joy right away!" raves one reviewer.

The Nest in Woodinville (*thenestkids.com*) ranks high with readers who love its daily enrichment classes. One reviewer says, "My kids have fun, and the convenience is great."

Blossoming Buds Cottage (*blossomingbudscottage.com*) in Seattle "is saving the sanity of Seattle moms one drop-off at a time," says one gratified parent.

NANNY OR BABYSITTING RESOURCE

★ Winner: The Nanny Consultant

Trust, plus your version of Mary Poppins, is the all-important equation when it comes to finding the right caregiver for your beloved little ones. **The Nanny Consultant** (*thenannyconsultant.com*), aka Kyla Lopez-Perkins, provides the tools needed to quickly find and fully support your ideal nanny. "Very knowledgeable and very patient with my never-ending questions," enthuses one reviewer.

Finalists

Yet again, parents agree that **Annie's Nannies, Inc.** (*aniseattle.com*) is "always very professional, prompt, and sends great nannies!"

AuPairCare (*aupaircare.com*) is touted for matching U.S. families with international au pairs who provide live-in child care. "Through



this experience we have gained extended family," says a satisfied parent.

The nannies at **Starling Agency** (*starlingagency.com*) are known for being experts in child development and education.

PARENT EDUCATION OR SUPPORT GROUP

★ Winner: PEPS

Puget Sound-area parents are buoyed by the lifesaver known as **PEPS** (Program for Early Parent Support; *peps.org*). For more than three decades, PEPS has supported new parents by creating neighborhood-based parent groups that fill the early parenting years with friendship and answers to all those brand-new questions. "PEPS kept me grounded, helped me to feel 'normal,'" says one parent.

Finalists

Parents and their infants or toddlers play, create and explore together at **Woodinville Toddler Group** (*woodinvilletoddlergroup.com*). "Wonderful school, wonderful program, fantastic playground!" says a reader.

Bellevue College's Parent Education program (*bellevuecollege.edu/parented*) offers parent-child classes and cooperative preschools on the greater Eastside and online. Thankful alumni include thousands of parents and children spanning the past 45 years!

Parents of infants learn to turn the present moment into a positive moment at **Listening Mothers — Community of Mindful Parenting** (*communityofmindfulparenting.com/programs-listening-mothers.html*). This eight-week program helps parents find their inner wisdom. >>



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BIRTH OR POSTPARTUM SUPPORT SERVICE

★ Winner: Birth Matters NW

Pregnancy, birth and postpartum professionals support parents through the journey of a new lifetime, from pregnancy to birth and beyond. Impressed parents praise the birth and postpartum doulas at **Birth Matters NW** (birthmattersnw.com). “Motivating and compassionate at the same time,” says one reviewer. “She cared for the baby and me, and even had energy left for our older son,” adds another thankful parent.

Finalists

Baby Diaper Service (BDS; babydiaperservice.net) has cleaned cloth diapers in the Puget Sound region since 1946. One satisfied reader says, “BDS makes this one very important aspect completely effortless.”

Open one year this May, **NW Pregnancy & Birth Coaching** (nwpregnancyandbirthcoaching.com) offers whole-hearted support for families. Birth doula Tatyana also offers postpartum care, placenta encapsulation and lactation cookies crafted with ingredients believed to boost milk production.

Puget Sound Midwives & Birth Center (birthcenter.com) draws rave reviews for its warm, loving care providers while readers say **Rebecca Michi — Children’s Sleep Consultant** (childrenssleepconsultant.com) gives you back your sleep (and who doesn’t love that?).

KIDS’ DENTIST

★ Winner: Lynnwood Kids Dentist

Establishing healthy dental habits is easy when children eagerly anticipate their dental appointments. **Lynnwood Kids Dentist** (kidsdentist.com) and its dentists, Dr. Roger Lucas and Dr. Diane Tung, claim their sixth consecutive win in this category. One contented parent says, “This is honestly the best dentist office I have been to for children.” Pluses include its colorful atmosphere and a waiting room stocked with video games.



Finalists

The **Eastside Pediatric Dental Group** (eastsidepediatricdentalgroup.com) receives the parent love; “A beautiful, clean, kid-friendly place with super-friendly, smiling staff all around,” reveals a reviewer. And kids adore the fully stocked waiting room: toys, books, a Lego table and a movie playing.

Readers give positive reviews for **Everyone By One, Bellevue** (everyonebyone.com): “Very patient and compassionate dentists,” and “My kids left there wanting to come back!!” say some reviewers.

Rama Oskouian, DMD, (woodinvillepd.com) receives accolades for her chairside manner. “Always upbeat and very positive,” says one gratified parent.



PEDIATRICIAN

★ Winner: Allegro Pediatrics

Readers commend this year’s winner, **Allegro Pediatrics** (allegropediatrics.com), for its same-day appointments 365 days a year, a 24-hour nurse line and more than 80 providers in eight locations. “Communication is stellar . . . providers return calls,” raves one reviewer about this physician-owned primary care practice. Another says, “These pediatricians know their stuff and take your concerns seriously!”

Finalists

Swedish Pediatric Specialty Care (swedish.org) makes taking care of your children’s health simple and straightforward, thanks to more than 20 locations, online access to medical records through MyChart and pediatric providers who match your family’s philosophy of care.

Ballard Pediatric Clinic (ballardpediatrics.com) features convenient morning drop-in hours, no appointment necessary; kid-friendly, kind and knowledgeable doctors; and calm receptionists who ensure smooth patient flow. “From the time we call in until the time we actually see a physician, Ballard Pediatrics is on top of its game,” says one reviewer.

Woodinville Pediatrics (woodinvillepediatrics.com) earned your votes for its

outstanding, attentive care: “If you are looking for a place for your infant all the way through their teens, this is the place!”

WALK-IN OR URGENT-CARE CLINIC

★ Winner: Seattle Children’s Hospital Urgent Care

When your child’s non-emergency medical care can’t wait until your doctor’s office is open, an urgent-care clinic appointment is your ailing child’s

godsend. **Seattle Children's Hospital Urgent Care** (seattlechildrens.org/clinics-programs/urgent-care-clinic) is this year's winner; pluses include no need for appointments, and estimated wait times listed on its website. "Stupendous care during a really tough time," says one reviewer.

Finalists

Parents tout the first-come, first-served rule at **Swedish Urgent Care and After-Hours Clinic**, (swedish.org/services/urgent-care) while noting its "quick and efficient" service and its "clean and friendly" atmosphere.

Seattle Children's Hospital Bellevue Urgent Care Clinic (seattlechildrens.org/clinics-programs/urgent-care-clinic) wins reader accolades. "The entire staff was wonderful," says one reviewer, while another pleased parent says, "They completely put my daughter at ease."

Readers give positive reviews for **The Everett Clinic's Walk-In Clinic** (everettclinic.com/medical-departments/walk-clinic-urgent-care): "Professional and information rich" and "My experience was five stars." University of Washington Medicine Urgent Care Clinics earned your votes for ease of service, thanks to six neighborhood clinic locales, with wait times conveniently listed on its website. ★

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NANNY OR BABYSITTING RESOURCE

★ **Winner: The Nanny Consultant**

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Starling Agency
My Loving Nanny
College Nannies + Sitters + Tutors

PARENT EDUCATION OR SUPPORT PROGRAM

★ **Winner: Program for Early Parent Support (PEPS)**

FINALISTS:
Woodinville Toddler Group
Bellevue College's Parent Education program
Listening Mothers — Community of Mindful Parenting
Teen Wise
Families of Color Seattle (FOCS)

See the full write-up at parentmap.com/golden-teddy

BIRTH OR POSTPARTUM SUPPORT SERVICE

★ **Winner: Birth Matters NW**

FINALISTS:
Baby Diaper Service
NW Pregnancy & Birth Coaching
Puget Sound Midwives & Birth Center
Rebecca Michi — Children's Sleep Consultant
Listening Mothers — Community of Mindful Parenting
Nurturing Expressions
Belly to Babies

KIDS' DENTIST

★ **Winner: Lynnwood Kids Dentist**

FINALISTS:
Eastside Pediatric Dental Group
Everyone By One, Bellevue
Rama Oskouian, DMD
Jeffrey B. Marks, DDS
Highlands Kids Dentistry
Lakeview Kids' Dentistry

PEDIATRICIAN

★ **Winner: Allegro Pediatrics**

FINALISTS:
Swedish Pediatric Specialty Care
Ballard Pediatric Clinic
Woodinville Pediatrics
Dr. Alexander M. Hamling at Pacific Medical Centers
Richmond Pediatrics

WALK-IN OR URGENT CARE CLINIC

★ **Winner: Seattle Children's Hospital Urgent Care**

FINALISTS:
Swedish Urgent Care and After-Hours Clinic
Seattle Children's Hospital Bellevue Urgent Care Clinic
The Everett Clinic's Walk-In Clinic
University of Washington Medicine Urgent Care Clinics
Overlake Medical Center Urgent Care Clinics
EvergreenHealth Urgent Care, Redmond
Zoom+Care Neighborhood Clinics

DRIVE-THROUGH OR FOOD-DELIVERY SERVICE

★ **Winner: Starbucks**

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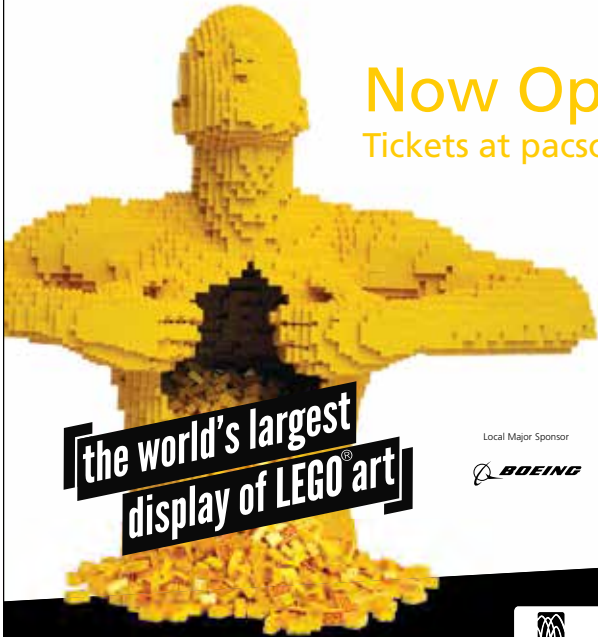
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