

The Winners of the 2009 Calgary's Child Magazine's Parents' Choice Awards



Who has the best ice cream? Which theatre company is the most fun? Where can you find the best kids' clothes? We asked... and you answered... these and more than 50 other family-friendly questions. Developed to recognize quality family retailers and service providers in our community, this year's Parents' Choice Awards is our 13th annual. Ballots were distributed in the November-December-2008 issue of *Calgary's Child Magazine* and more than 150,000 readers were invited to vote for their family favorites in over 50 categories. The response was phenomenal. Congratulations to the Webb family, from NW Calgary, our winners of the fabulous night at the Sheraton Suites Eau Claire. Thank you to everyone who voted and sent us such wonderful feedback.

ACTIVITIES

Best Tourist/Family Attraction

1st Calgary Zoo & Botanical Gardens
Honourable Mention Calaway Park
Honourable Mention Heritage Park

Best Calgary Sports Team

1st Calgary Flames
Honourable Mention Calgary Stampeders
Honourable Mention Calgary Hitmen

Best Festival

1st Calgary International Children's Festival
Honourable Mention Calgary Exhibition & Stampede
Honourable Mention Calgary Folk Music Festival

Best Halloween Event

1st Calgary Zoo - Boo at the Zoo
Honourable Mention .. Butterfield Acres Farm - Pumpkin Hunts
Honourable Mention Market Mall Maskoween

Best Christmas Event

1st Calgary Zoo - Zoolights
Honourable Mention .. Heritage Park - Once Upon a Christmas
Honourable Mention Airdrie Festival of Lights

Best Preschooler Programs

1st Gymboree Play & Music
Honourable Mention YMCA Calgary
Honourable Mention ... Parents and Children Together (PACT)

Best Programs for School Age Children

1st The City of Calgary Recreation
Honourable Mention YMCA Calgary
Honourable Mention Cardel Place

Best Teen Programs

1st The City of Calgary Recreation
Honourable Mention YMCA Calgary
Honourable Mention WinSport Canada (COP)

Best Children's Day Camp

1st YMCA Calgary
Honourable Mention The City of Calgary Recreation
Honourable Mention Calgary Zoo

Best Children's Residential Camp

1st YMCA - Camp Chief Hector
Honourable Mention Tim Hortons Camp
Honourable Mention Girl Guides

Best Family Ski Area in Alberta

1st WinSport Canada (COP)
Honourable Mention Sunshine Village
Honourable Mention Nakiska

Best Swimming Pool

1st The City of Calgary - Southland Leisure Centre
Honourable Mention Cardel Place
Honourable Mention Westside Recreation Centre

Best Family Fitness Facility

1st Cardel Place
Honourable Mention YMCA
Honourable Mention The City of Calgary Leisure Centres

Best Live Theatre Company

1st StoryBook Theatre
Honourable Mention Stage West for Kids
Honourable Mention Loose Moose Theatre Company

Best Movie Theatre

1st Scotiabank Theatre Chinook
Honourable Mention Empire Studio 16 Country Hills
Honourable Mention Cineplex Odeon Crowfoot Crossing

Best Museum

1st Glenbow Museum
Honourable Mention TELUS World of Science
Honourable Mention Royal Tyrrell Museum

BIRTHDAY PARTIES

Best Place to Have a Children's Party

1st The Urban Treehouse
Honourable Mention Gymboree Play & Music
Honourable Mention Let's Play

Best Entertainment for a Children's Party

1st Annabell's Attic
Honourable Mention Enchanted Events
Honourable Mention Mad Science

Best Birthday Cakes

1st Calgary Co-op
Honourable Mention Cakeworks
Honourable Mention Dairy Queen

2009 Parents' Choice Award Winners - cont'd next page

FOOD & GROCERY

Best Grocery Store

1st Real Canadian Superstore
Honourable Mention Calgary Co-op
Honourable Mention Canada Safeway

Best Ice Cream Store

1st Marble Slab Creamery
Honourable Mention Dairy Queen
Honourable Mention MacKay's Cochrane Ice Cream

Best Natural Foods Store

1st Community Natural Foods
Honourable Mention Planet Organic Market
Honourable Mention Amaranth Whole Foods Market

Best Fast Food

1st McDonald's
Honourable Mention A & W
Honourable Mention Subway

Best Drive-Thru

1st Peters' Drive-In
Honourable Mention McDonald's
Honourable Mention Tim Hortons

Best Pizza

1st Panago
Honourable Mention Boston Pizza
Honourable Mention Pizza Hut

Best Children's Menu

1st Boston Pizza
Honourable Mention Montana's Cookhouse
Honourable Mention Denny's

Best Restaurant for Parent's Night Out

1st The Keg Steak House & Bar
Honourable Mention Joey Tomato's Mediterranean Grill
Honourable Mention Redwater Rustic Grille

TRAVEL

Best Travel Agency

1st Alberta Motor Association (AMA) Travel
Honourable Mention Calgary Co-op Travel
Honourable Mention Flight Centre

Best Hotel/Motel

1st Sheraton Suites
Honourable Mention Delta Hotels
Honourable Mention Fairmont Hotels

HEALTH SERVICES

Pharmacy

1st Shoppers Drug Mart
Honourable Mention Canada Safeway
Honourable Mention Calgary Co-op

SUPPORT & EDUCATION

Best Preschool

1st Edelweiss Preparatory School
Honourable Mention Kaleidoscope Kids Preschool
Honourable Mention Campus Preschool

Best Tutor

1st Oxford Learning Centre
Honourable Mention Sylvan Learning Centre
Honourable Mention Kumon Math and Reading Centres

Best Playgroup

1st Parents and Children Together (PACT)
Honourable Mention Gymboree Play & Music
Honourable Mention Room to Grow

Best Parent Support Group

1st Parents and Children Together (PACT)
Honourable Mention Calgarymoms.com
Honourable Mention Calgary Health Region

Best Child Care Facility

1st YMCA Calgary
Honourable Mention Panda Child Development Centres
Honourable Mention Kids & Company

SHOPPING

Best Children's Clothing Store

1st The Children's Place
Honourable Mention Old Navy
Honourable Mention Gymboree

Best Children's Gift Store

1st Bug & Blossom
Honourable Mention Cater Tot Consignment
Honourable Mention The Whimsy Shop at Enchanted Events

Best Place for Maternity Wear

1st Thyme Maternity
Honourable Mention Old Navy
Honourable Mention Motherhood Maternity

Best Place for Baby Supplies

1st Wal-Mart
Honourable Mention bo bébé
Honourable Mention Cater Tot Consignment

Best Second Hand Clothing Store

1st Once Upon a Child
Honourable Mention Cater Tot Consignment
Honourable Mention HuckleBerry Kids

Best Children's Furniture Store

1st IKEA
Honourable Mention e-children
Honourable Mention Kacz' Kids

Best Children's Bookstore

1st Chapters/Indigo/Coles
Honourable Mention Monkeyshines Children's Books
Honourable Mention Owl's Nest Bookstore

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Best Place for Children’s Haircuts

1st Beaners Fun Cuts for Kids
Honourable Mention Great Clips for Hair
Honourable Mention Supercuts

Best Shopping Mall for Families

1st Market Mall
Honourable Mention Southcentre Mall
Honourable Mention Chinook Centre

Best Place to Buy School Supplies

1st Wal-Mart
Honourable Mention Staples Business Depot
Honourable Mention Real Canadian Superstore

Best Family Photographer

1st kidsphoto
Honourable Mention Kristen Shima Photography
Honourable Mention (tie) .. Sunflower Photography/francesfoto

Best Pet Shop

1st Petland
Honourable Mention Petcetera
Honourable Mention PetSmart

Best Shoe Store

1st Payless ShoeSource
Honourable Mention The Shoe Company
Honourable Mention Brown's Shoe Shops

Best Sporting Goods Store

1st SportChek
Honourable Mention Mountain Equipment Co-op
Honourable Mention Canadian Tire

Best Toy Store

1st Toys R Us
Honourable Mention Gracie & Gruff
Honourable Mention Scholar's Choice

Best Video Store

1st Blockbuster
Honourable Mention Rogers Video
Honourable Mention VHQ Entertainment

AND FINALLY...

Best Place to Take Your Kids on a Crummy Day

1st TELUS World of Science
Honourable Mention The Urban Treehouse
Honourable Mention Coffee & S'cream

PUBLISHER'S AWARD OF DISTINCTION

Education Matters

Youth Volunteer Corps – Child & Youth Friendly Calgary