


ChildSupport.

It's more than just money.



2019






Protector.
Teacher.
Monster Checker.
Dad.

ChildSupport.
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Amigo.
Compañero de juego.
Chofer.
Papá.

PensiónInfantil.
No se trata sólo de dinero.

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The New Jersey Department of Human Services' Office of Child Support Services recognizes the importance of child support to the economic well-being of NJ families. This calendar is one example of how we get information out to mothers and fathers across the state about our child support program and to share our message that "child support is more than just money." It's also about time – and teaching, protecting, playing, mentoring – being there to care, share, celebrate and support.

Call 1-877-NJKiDS1 or visit www.njchildsupport.org.



Listener.
Buddy.
Jungle Gym.
Mom.

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Hero.
Nurturer.
Boo-boo Fixer.
Dad.

Parents have so many roles.

Each one is important. And each one requires time, patience and love.
Whether you live with your children or not, support them in every way possible.
Remember, child support is more than just money.

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New Jersey Department of Human Services
New Jersey Judiciary

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New Jersey Department of Human Services
New Jersey Judiciary
Phil Murphy, Governor | Sheila Oliver, Lt. Governor
Carole Johnson, Commissioner

2018 NJ Teen Media Honorable Mention Hand-Drawn Art



S. Venturi



K. Festin



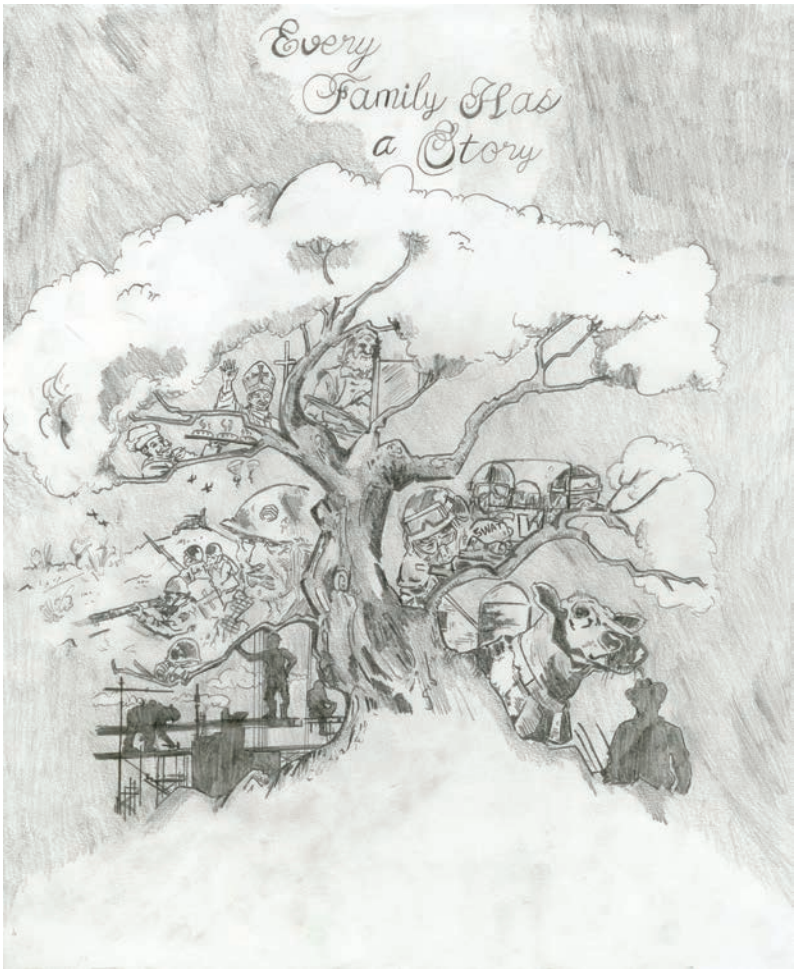
S. Shaikh



M. Dunn



A. Rivera



F. Crivelli



R. Quedding



A. Miguel

2018 Winners

Hand-Drawn Art

High School

- 1st Place: Mia Tomasino, Piscataway High School
2nd Place: Avia Hurley, Piscataway High School
3rd Place: Miya Preyer, Point Pleasant Beach High School

Middle School

- 1st Place: Bianca Lumang, Academy 1 Middle School
2nd Place: Krishna Patel, Academy 1 Middle School
3rd Place: Kacey A. Zuniga, Levitt Middle School

Written

High School

- 1st Place: Sophia Ginet, Ocean City High School
2nd Place: Hannah Malcolm, Point Pleasant Beach High School
3rd Place: Lauren Mirsky, Ocean City High School

Middle School

- 1st Place: Isha Shrivastava, Linwood Middle School
2nd Place: Davian Small, Memorial Middle School
3rd Place: Kelsey Besser, Olson Middle School



About The Teen Media Contest

The theme for the 2018 Teen Media Contest encouraged students to illustrate – through art or written word – “What Does Your Family Tree Look Like?” This concept could be taken literally, abstractly, or be left to the imagination. What you will find inside our calendar is the diversity and uniqueness of family trees illustrated by students across the state.

This annual contest is open to all middle school or high school age students in New Jersey.

For more information about the contest and to sign up for contest updates visit www.NJTeenMedia.org.

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American

From Jewish ghetto,
to the bright lights of Ellis Island,
my grandparents sailed towards their American Dream.
Headed for salvation,
only with their life-savings in hand.
They built a life in the Bronx slums,
and tried to assimilate.
America was not just a new opportunity,
it had saved their lives.
The stars they worn on their hearts,
reminded them of what their fate could have been.
As Hitler stole the lives of the rest of their family,
the pair was living comfortably in New York.
In the land of equality,
Their lives were able to be rebuilt.
They were no longer Jews,
they were Americans.

January 2019

Lauren Mirsky
"American"
3rd Place Written
High School



sun	mon	tues	wed	thurs	fri	sat
		1 New Year's Day	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 Martin Luther King Jr. Day	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

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December 2018

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16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
23	30 ²⁴	31 ²⁵	26	27	28	29	

February 2019

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17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
24	25	26	27	28			

Notes

Family Has No Boundaries

My parents sat there, eyes wide, brows raised, and mouths open. I guess they haven't interacted with me enough to know that I was actually capable of speaking. Claire was beside me, nodding at my harsh words, as if she understood exactly what I was saying.

Nevertheless, I perceived that she did understand the key parts, because she stood up and shrieked, "Mommy and Daddy are bad guys and they don't like me so I don't like them!"

"Charlie, Claire, I didn't know you felt like this. I know that work is making it seem like we ignore you and don't give you any attention, but you are my precious daughters, the stars in my life. That doesn't justify my actions, but I still love you both so very much. Thank you for being strong-" Dad broke off, choking back a sob.

"I'm so sorry as well. Your father and I haven't been getting along that well right now, but I assure you both, that it'll change. We'll definitely become the family you've always wanted. I am so sorry Charlene and Claire" Mom sniffled.

It's only been a few weeks since this whole incident, and I've started to notice tremendous changes. I'm spending more time with my family, which sadly means less time with Ava. On the bright side, Dad can work from home now, so we won't be left alone. Mom is starting to come back home earlier and makes dinner for us, and is even thinking of hiring a babysitter for Claire. I cannot express my gratitude to the Mori family enough, because they turned my lopsided life back into its place. I've learned that families expand and become stronger in times of stress and sadness, and concluded that the Moris' are part of my family too. On the other hand, my parents have learned that they both have to work together to enhance and fix their children's futures.

Selected excerpt. Read full essay at NJTeenMedia.org.



Isha Shrivastava
"Family Has No Boundaries"
1st Place Written
Middle School

February 2019

sun	mon	tues	wed	thurs	fri	sat
					1	2 Groundhog Day
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14 Valentine's Day	15	16
17	18 Presidents' Day	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		

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January 2019

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27	28	29	30	31		

March 2019

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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24/31	25	26	27	28	29	30

Notes



March 2019

Kacey A. Zuniga
"Illusion Hand Family Tree"
3rd Place Hand-Drawn Art
Middle School



sun	mon	tues	wed	thurs	fri	sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10 Daylight Saving Time Begins	11	12	13	14	15	16
17 Saint Patrick's Day	18	19	20 First Day of Spring	21	22	23
24 31	25	26	27	28	29	30

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February 2019

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April 2019

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28	29	30					

Notes

Interlocked

Deep and down and tightly wound, My roots grow stronger and stronger.
But up to the sky and all around, My branches grow longer and longer.

Through great lightning storms and hurricanes,
No such wind could ever sweep us away.
For the blood is so strong within our veins.
I am reminded of this tree each and every day.

My grandfather tells me oh how I will be bright,
Grandmother tells me it is not worth your worry,
Father tells me never back down from the fight,
And mother tells me I must not hurry,

For "You and your sister have so much to learn,
So much growing and many mountains to move.
Do not let your youth so quickly burn
There is still so much time to improve!"

We are not alone, we are one,
Starting from within, we then expand.
Up and down with waves of the sun
Crashing on the shore exploring the land.

Even moreover there is more than just us,
Forests are filled and rich with love.
Our branches they brush and form a great trust!
It is us and them that make it thereof.

No matter how broken or beaten,
No matter how many branches have snapped,
Life is only something for us to sweeten
And so our roots will forever overlap!

Individuality, it creates us,
Strength, it supports us,
Loyalty, it connects us,
And family, found in the forest, is what makes us.



Hannah Malcolm
"Interlocked"
2nd Place Written
High School

April 2019

sun	mon	tues	wed	thurs	fri	sat
	1 April Fools' Day	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15 Tax Day	16	17	18	19 Good Friday Passover Begins	20
21 Easter Sunday	22 Earth Day	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

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March 2019

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May 2019

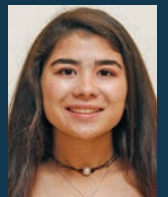
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Notes



May 2019

Miya Preyer
"A Diverse Garden"
3rd Place Hand-Drawn Art
High School



sun	mon	tues	wed	thurs	fri	sat
			1	2	3	4
5 Cinco de Mayo	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 Mother's Day	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27 Memorial Day	28	29	30	31	

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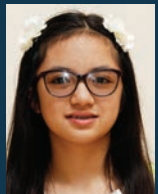
April 2019

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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
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June 2019

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16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
23/30	24	25	26	27	28	29	

Notes



Bianca Lumang
"My Family Tree"
1st Place Hand-Drawn Art
Middle School

June 2019

sun	mon	tues	wed	thurs	fri	sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14 Flag Day	15
16 Father's Day	17	18	19	20	21 First Day of Summer	22
23 30	24	25	26	27	28	29

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May 2019

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July 2019

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Notes

Word to the Wise

Energetic

Bouncing off the walls
And running quickly he is
He's energetic

Competitive

Two members compete
One challenging the other
Still love each other

Lazy

Laying on the couch
Realizing I need something
I'll ask my siblings

Hard-Working

Comes home after shift
Walks in and sees craziness
Still has strength to share

Resilient

Sister looks alright
But, on the inside, is stressed
Yet still watches us

Wise

She thinks on her feet
And can always solve problems
She is very wise

Caring

Hear the sound of hurt
We all come running to help
That shows that we care

Bright

Can answer questions
And puts logic into it
We are very bright

July 2019

Davian Small
"Word to the Wise"
2nd Place Written
Middle School



sun	mon	tues	wed	thurs	fri	sat
	1	2	3	4 Independence Day	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
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June 2019

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August 2019

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18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	

Notes



Krishna Patel
"My Family Tree"
2nd Place Hand-Drawn Art
Middle School

August 2019

sun	mon	tues	wed	thurs	fri	sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
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July 2019

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September 2019

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29	30					

Notes



September 2019

Mia Tomasino
"Cherishing Your Family Roots"
1st Place Hand-Drawn Art
High School



sun	mon	tues	wed	thurs	fri	sat
1	2 Labor Day	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

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August 2019

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October 2019

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27	28	29	30	31			

Notes

Typical

With a gleaming smile that illuminates the room,
And an infectious laugh that echoes within the heart, He's just like everyone else.

Whether he's chanting in the stands with a foam finger,
Or skillfully surfing on the nose of his board, He's just like everyone else.

Feeling fulfilled from everyday activities with friends,
And hosting romantic dates over frozen delights, He's just like everyone else.

Splintering boards with a kick in karate,
Or backstroking his way to another gold medal, He's just like everyone else.

Becoming involved in a variety of clubs,
And donning a dapper tux at prom, He's just like everyone else.

Whether heartbreaking tears roll down his cheeks,
Or joy bubbles within his soul, He's just like everyone else.

Loving the wisps of wind streaking his face on a coaster,
And the sun gently tanning his cheeks on the beach, He's just like everyone else.

While pushing himself to the point of drenched hair during a workout,
Or eagerly awaiting to learn at his desk, He's just like everyone else.

Cherishing his floppy-eared and fluffy lab,
And the toastily sincere hugs from his family, He's just like everyone else.

He's an average teenager,
Exploring the spoils and sufferings of life with spirit,
So why do you treat my brother differently because he has Down Syndrome?



Sophia Ginet
"Typical"
1st Place Written
High School

October 2019

sun	mon	tues	wed	thurs	fri	sat
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8 Yom Kippur Begins	9	10	11	12
13	14 Columbus Day	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31 Halloween		

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September 2019

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November 2019

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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

Notes

Never Ending

There's trust in our family tree,
and happiness around.
Its roots are strongly planted
in the rich and dark soil.

We love the droplets of water
and a beam of sunlight,
and when a leaf tumbles from our tree,
together we blow in the wind.

Yellow, green, brown, red and orange,
Our leaves grow different colors.
My family tree is very unique.
It expresses what we feel on the inside.

Our tree is never ending.
Never ending with life,
Never ending with love,
Never ending with hope.

November 2019

Kelsey Besser
"Never Ending"
3rd Place Written
Middle School



sun	mon	tues	wed	thurs	fri	sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Daylight Saving Time Ends						
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	Veterans Day					
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
				Thanksgiving		

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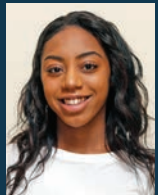
October 2019

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December 2019

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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Notes



Avia Hurley
"My Tree Is"
2nd Place Hand-Drawn Art
High School

December 2019

sun	mon	tues	wed	thurs	fri	sat
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22 Hanukkah Begins	23	24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Day	26 Kwanzaa	27	28
29	30	31 New Year's Eve				

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November 2019

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January 2020

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Notes
