2025













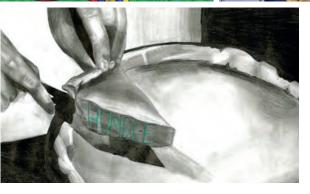












ChildSupport. It's more than just money.

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A look back

The New Jersey Child Support Teen Media Contest started as a way to help teens understand what is involved in parenting so they could make good decisions about when to become a parent.

Over time, the contest evolved to have more of a family focus, but always from a child's perspective. Contest themes including "Families come in different shapes and sizes. Depict what makes your parent(s) unique and how that has impacted your view of parenthood" and "Illustrate when you need your parent/parents most" – challenged teens to focus on the important role of both parents in actively raising and supporting them.

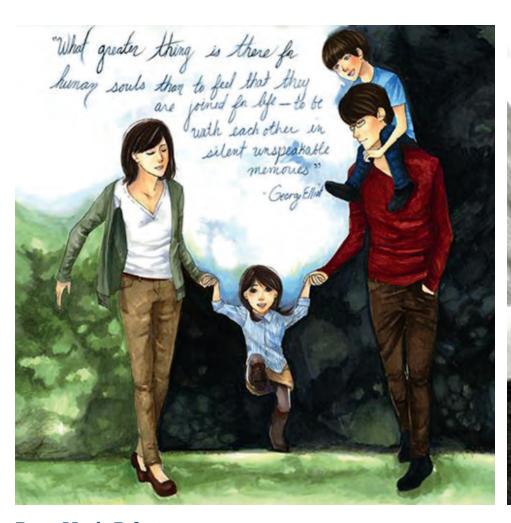
Through the contest themes, we aim to further the NJ Child Support tagline of "It's More Than Just Money". It serves as a reminder that no amount of money can replace the emotional caring and support parents give their children. Child support is also time, teaching, protecting, playing and mentoring – and being there to care, share, celebrate and support.

The contest started with a hand-drawn/hand-painted category. The written word category was added in 2018, and often received more entries than the hand-drawn category.

Since the beginning, the New Jersey Department of Human Services, Division of Family Development, Office of Child Support Services has celebrated the creativity of hundreds of New Jersey middle and high school students. This year's calendar theme is a retrospective look at some of the past years. We hope you enjoy seeing how each year's theme inspired the artwork and how it reflects the times in which it was created. For more information about the contest, visit www.NJTeenMedia.org.

Theme from 2012:

Depict a unique quality in your parent(s) that you would like to see in yourself and pass on to your children.





Dana Marie Rebutoc"Where the Warmth Is"
Nutley High School, Nutley

Christine Han"Big Ol' Slice of Humble Pie"
Schuyler-Colfax Middle School, Wayne

january

December 2024										
1	2	3	4	5	6	7				
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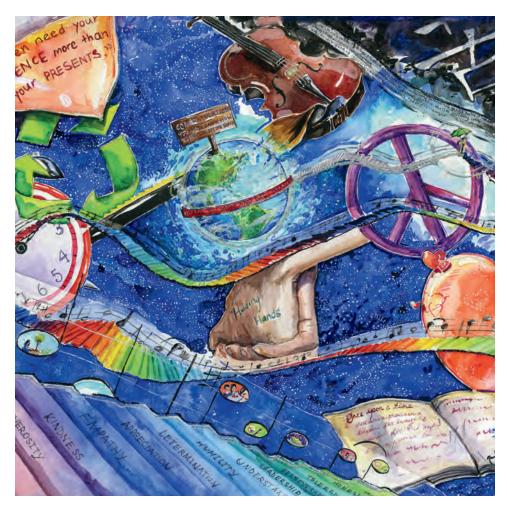
February 2025

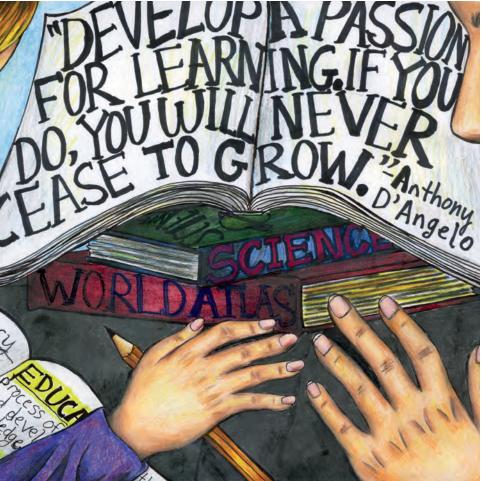
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			New Year's Day	2	3	4
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20 Martin Luther King Jr. Day	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Theme from 2013:

Schools and families often help one another during times of need. Illustrate the ways in which your parent(s) have instilled in you the importance of community service and being a well-rounded student.





Carrie Zhang "Path Through Time"

"Path Through Time" John H. Walker Middle School, Nutley

Alexandra Pietsch

"Education" Ewing High School, Ewing

february

January 2025											
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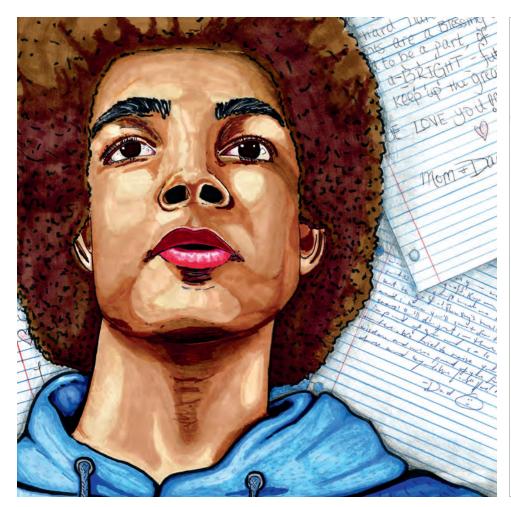
March 2025

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2 Groundhog Day	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14 Valentine's Day	15
16	17 Presidents' Day	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	Ramadan Begins (evening of)	

Theme from 2014:

Families come in different shapes and sizes. Depict what makes your parent(s) unique and how that has impacted your view of parenthood.





Diamond Jones-Vaughn

"Pride"
Piscataway Township High School, Piscataway

Natalie Chung"Love Since Day One"

Schuyler-Colfax Middle School, Wayne



February 2025

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April 2025

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27 28 29 30

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2	3	4	5 Ash Wednesday	6	7	8
Daylight Saving Time Begins	10	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

Theme from 2015:

Illustrate the way in which families are greater that the sum of their parts and that all families can make an impact on their neighborhood, their community and their world.





Priyanka Malholtra

"Parts of My Family" Piscataway Township High School, Piscataway

Rashel Caraballo

"Families Are Greater than the Sum of their Parts"

Academy 1 Middle School, Jersey City

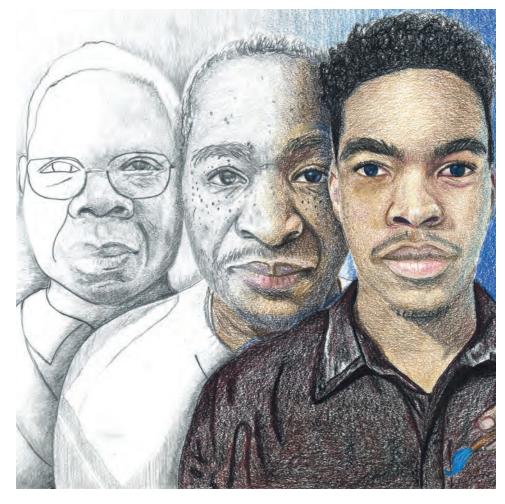


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		1 April Fools' Day	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	Passover Begins (evening of)
13	14	15 Tax Day	16	17	18 Good Friday	19
20 Easter Sunday	21	22 Earth Day	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

Theme from 2016:

Illustrate how families grow through generations and that every person comes from something bigger than themselves.





Courtney Culp"Generations" Piscataway Township High School, Piscataway

Karen Hu"The World I Come From"
Heritage Middle School, Livingston



Αŗ	April 2025										
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 June 2025

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4	5 Cinco de Mayo	6	7	8	9	10
Mother's Day	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26 Memorial Day	27	28	29	30	31

Theme from 2017: Illustrate a favorite weekend memory with your parents and/or family.





Sharina Kuo"Down by the Bay"
Cherry Hill High School West, Cherry Hill

Lydia Yang"Walk With Me"
Schuyler-Colfax Middle School, Wayne



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ChildSupport.
It's more than just money.

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

Theme from 2018: Illustrate through art or the written word what your family tree looks like.

Avia Hurley

"My Tree Is"
Piscataway
Township
High School,
Piscataway



Interlocked

"... 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" Point Pleasant

Beach
High School,
Point Pleasant
Beach

Kelsey Besser

"Never Ending"
Olson
Middle School,
Tabernacle

Never Ending

"There's trust in our family tree, and happiness around. Its roots are strongly planted in the rich and dark soil ... Our tree is never ending. Never ending with life, Never ending with love, Never ending with hope."



Bianca Lumang

"My Family Tree" Academy 1 Middle School, Jersey City



Ju	June 2025										
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August 2025									
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Theme from 2019:

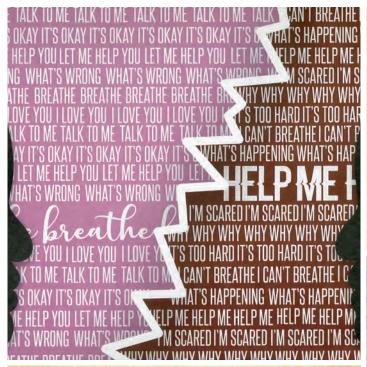
In what situations have you felt most supported by a parent or loved one? Tell us when you most appreciate having parents or loved ones present in your daily life.

Alyssa Morris

"Help"

Hunterdon
County Polytech,
Raritan

Township



Zayn Jaber

"Family's Love"
Pillars Prepatory
Academy,
South River

Family's Love

"... Do you know what keeps my ship steady on its proper course? It's your love and support-such a constant and powerful force! So strong that it guides me through the most tumultuous seas, And there on the horizon, rests all of our beautiful memories, And our footsteps are etched forever in the sand, My success is yours because from the very beginning, you took my hand."

An Invisible Section

"... A piece of paper cannot define interminable love, A contract cannot divide the role of a parent in a child's life, A legal document cannot prohibit a child's development, Unless you let it... Choose love. Choose a bond that can stretch over miles. Choose to not define the role of a 'parent'."

Erin Hanlon

"An Invisible Section" Ocean City High School, Ocean City



"Family Under the Umbrella" Cliffside Park Middle School, Cliffside Park



august

 July 2025

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 September 2025

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Theme from 2020:

Illustrate through art, or the written word, a valuable life lesson or moment that you will never forget.

Kiera Reeves

"Apple Picking"
Piscataway
High School,
Piscataway



Angela Eggie

"Don't Follow the Crowd" Ocean City High School, Ocean City

Don't Follow the Crowd

"My parents once told me, "Be different, you're allowed! Don't do what they do, Don't follow the crowd! You are your own person, There's no one else above you, You're very unique, That's why we love you ..."

Be a Leader, Not a Follower

"Life is a miracle That brings hope to the world My mother said to be original After everything I learned Following everyone doesn't get you anywhere Be a leader, not a follower Just be yourself And not anyone else ..."

Brianna Morrishaw

"Be a Leader, Not a Follower"

Paterson Charter School for Science & Technology, Paterson

Esperanza Baquedano

"Caring Community" Emerson Middle School, Jersey City



24/ 25 26 27 28 29 30

26 27 28 29 30 31

sun	mon	tue	wed	thurs	fri	sat
	1 Labor Day	2	3	4	5	6
National Grandparent's Day	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	First Day of Fall Rosh Hashanah Begins (evening of)	Rosh Hashanah	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

Theme from 2021:

Illustrate, through art or the written word, how you and your loved ones have supported each other through all of the changes that have happened in the previous year, from remote schooling to finding new ways to stay connected to friends and family.

Andrew Kim

"Family Has no Boundary" Montclair Kimberley Academy, Montclair



We Survived

"We Survived"
Cliffside Park
High School,
Cliffside Park

Avila-Mota

Ines

"We Survived Long nights, longer days which led to Endless weeks and endless months. Behind windows and under masks No way to ask Are you alright? No one thought they could survive But we did and many turned 18 Many lost the year 19 Can you believe We made it through the worst of this disease Indeed we did!"

The Art of Slipping

"... I have learned that grades will slip, and that's okay. Being able to spend an afternoon with family is more important than cramming for a history exam and spending a long awaited evening with close friends will make you feel better about yourself than a perfect score ever will. Take the time out of the day to really look at what is going on and reevaluate what is most important ..."

Heather Murphy

"The Art of Slipping" Morris County School of Technology, Denville

Charvi Yetish

"We Are in This Together and Forever" Pond Road Middle School, Robbinsville



october

 September 2025

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November 2025

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			Yom Kippur Begins (evening of)	2 Yom Kippur	3	4
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12	13 Columbus Day	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31 Halloween	

Theme from 2022:

These unprecedented times have had a massive impact on children, relationships and family life. Illustrate through art, or the written word, your dream and how your parents/loved ones are helping you get there.

Yoojin Jeon

"Encourage for the Artist's Future" East Brook Middle School, Paramus



My Hair and I

"... Despite my relative insecurity, I have now gained confidence in myself. I have been able to accept the fact that I do still struggle with negative comments, however, now I can openly discuss my feelings. I know that one day I will be able to fully love myself."

Samma Faragalla

"My Hair and I"
Dwight Morrow
High School,
Englewood

Ayah Abbassi

"With the Help of a Promise" Pillars Preparatory Academy, South River

With the Help of a Promise

"... Though the stars I do adore,

It is my parents who helped me soar. Mom and dad, you always had time,

To stand by me and watch me shine ..."



Erin Park

"Supporting Hands" Bergen County Academies, Hackensack

november

October 2025 26 27 28 29 30 31

December 2025 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

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2 Daylight Saving Time Ends	3	4 Election Day	5	6	7	8
9	10	11 Veterans Day	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
30	24	25	26	27 Thanksgiving	28	29

Theme from 2023:

Illustrate through art, or the written word, how your parents or loved ones make everyday things special and what they do to celebrate these small milestones and achievements.

Gabriella Freeman

"Game Night"
Piscataway
High School,
Piscataway



Chloe Care

"While Under Two Roofs" Ocean City High School, Ocean City

While Under Two Roofs

"... All under two roofs My parents exclaim their words of encouragement to show they believe in me each day

While we may not live under the same roof, each parent has given me a foundation of love; for the heart of a home is not always within four walls and a roof, it goes where you go."

The Power of Family

"... Some of these moments change with the seasons. They're special to me for a variety of reasons. Summer days on the boat with the wind in my hair. Winter sleds on the hill without a care. Autumn breezes that blow leaves in my face. Planting Spring flowers all over the place. As a family, we share moments throughout the seasons. Creating stories to share when the time comes."

Avery Dravis

"The Power of Family"

Memorial

Middle School,

Medford

Township

Liam Wong

"Capturing Moments" Academy 1 Middle School, Jersey City



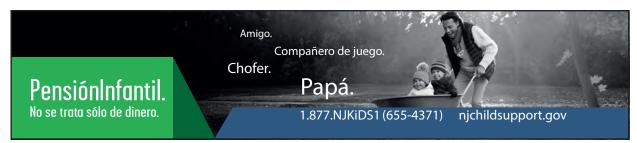
december

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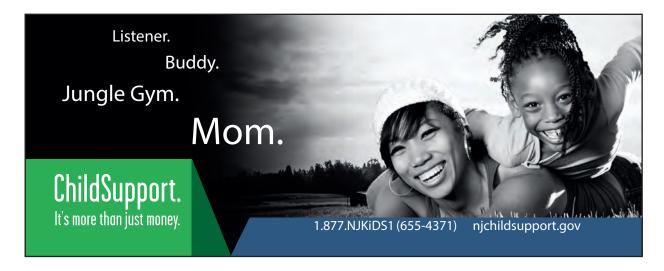
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Hanukkah Begins (evening of)	15	16	17	18	19	20
21 First Day of Winter	22	23	24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas Day	Kwanzaa Begins (evening of)	27
28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve			

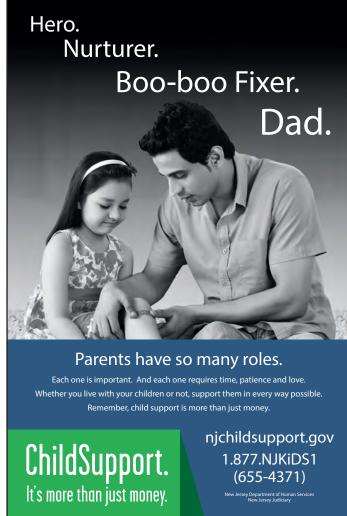




The New Jersey Department of Human Services' Office of Child Support Services recognizes the importance of child support to the economic well-being of NJ families. This calendar is one example of how we get information out to families across the state about our child support program and to share our 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 (655-4371) or visit www.njchildsupport.gov.





ChildSupport. It's more than just money.

1-877-NJKiDS1 (655-4371) www.njchildsupport.gov

Phil Murphy, Governor I Tahesha L. Way, Lt. Governor New Jersey Department of Human Services Sarah Adelman, Commissioner