

## 2019 Golden Teddy Awards — Food + Dining

*Every year, ParentMap readers vote on their favorite places to play, learn, shop and dine around the Puget Sound in ParentMap's annual [Golden Teddy Awards](#). Read on for the winners and finalists in the Food + Dining category.*

Any eatery can offer a kids' menu and toss out a few crayons. But to make a restaurant truly family-friendly, you need delicious food that kids and parents can both enjoy and an atmosphere that keeps everyone entertained until the food comes.

To find those elusive spots that have it all, we've turned to the folks who know best — our readers! We asked, and you answered. Here are family-friendly restaurants, sweet-treat spots and coffee shops that you have tested and approved. — [Gemma Alexander](#)

### Food + Dining categories include:

- [Cool Ice Cream Shop](#)
- [Corner Coffee Shop](#)
- [Crave-Worthy Cultural Eats](#)
- [Family-Friendly Farmers Market](#)
- [Family Pizzeria](#)
- [Kid-Friendly Neighborhood Restaurant](#)
- [Sweet Treat Shop](#)

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### Winner: Molly Moon's Homemade Ice Cream

[Molly Moon's Homemade Ice Cream](#) has been voted ParentMap readers' favorite ice cream shop every year since 2012. Serving up crowd-pleasing scoops at seven locations — from cool seasonal flavors like orange habañero cookie dough to perennial favorites like Stumptown Coffee and honey lavender — it's no surprise it tops the list. As if its fabulous flavors aren't enough of a treat, this ice creamery sources 90 percent of its ingredients from the Pacific Northwest!

### Finalists

[Full Tilt Ice Cream](#), another longtime favorite, may be old-school with its pinball machines and other arcade games at its five Seattle locations, but its ice cream is totally 21st century: gourmet flavors, vegan options and more.

South Sound readers love [Ice Cream Social](#) in Tacoma (and other South End locations), which uses only natural and mostly local ingredients and no corn sweeteners.

With a monthly rotation of locally inspired flavors, [Nutty Squirrel Gelato](#) scoops up traditional Italian gelato and sorbetto. It also offers Italian desserts like tiramisu and panna cotta, in the unlikely event that a family member doesn't feel like eating frozen treats.

Originating in Portland, [Salt and Straw](#) ice cream shops are now scattered along the entire West Coast, with different flavor options for every locale. Here in Seattle (with two locations!), we have Beecher's cheese with peppercorn toffee and a vegan Rachel's raspberry ginger beer.

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### Winner: Cloud City Coffee and Café

One of last year's finalists, [Cloud City Coffee and Café](#), which is within walking distance from Seattle's Maple Leaf Park, takes the top spot this year. One enthusiastic reader says, "Everyone is family here, and families are always welcome." Cloud City feels like home, with comfy couches, a lending library, newspapers, games and a kids' play area. But it's a home with locally roasted coffee and a full menu.

### Finalists

With [Anthem Coffee and Tea's](#) multiple South Sound locations, its "heroic hospitality" is a hit with families. (Maybe it helps that parents can order beer and wine in addition to a kid's cocoa.)

"The coffee and crêpes are amazing!" at [Café Javasti](#) in Maple Leaf and Wedgwood, where everything is made from scratch daily.

The crêpes are a specialty worth the drive at another finalist, [CRAFT.19 Espresso + Creperie](#) in Sumner, where local ingredients and craftsmanship are the order of the day.

Some readers claim [Kaffeeklatsch](#) in Lake City makes the best breakfast sandwich in the Northwest, while others wonder why you'd bother to find that out when you could just as well order Kaffeeklatsch's authentic German pretzels.

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### Winner: Din Tai Fung

Global Taiwanese chain [Din Tai Fung](#) has won again! Locations in Bellevue, Seattle and Tukwila serve Taiwanese and Shanghai fare and dim sum, but the *xiao long bao* soup dumplings are the primary draw. This place is *popular*, so plan to let the kids run around outside while you wait for a table. Fortunately, once you're seated, the service is as fast as the food is delicious.

### Finalists

[Hood Famous Bakeshop](#) specializes in desserts featuring Filipino and Asian-Pacific flavors. Famous for its *ube* (that's purple yam) cheesecake, the business has a bakery in Ballard that's open on weekends, and a café and bar in the Chinatown–International District that's open all week.

[Saffron Grill](#) in Northgate brings an inventive fusion of Indian and Mediterranean cuisine to family dining.

[Tamarind Tree](#) has a surprisingly serene environment for being a family favorite. Perhaps that's because kids are too busy chowing down on delicious provincial Vietnamese food to get up to any mischief.

Families flock to [Taste of India](#) in the University District to sup on a flavorful and wide array of Indian and Mediterranean dishes, served in ample portions and at reasonable prices — all in a family-friendly setting. Customers also note the attentive service (including generous chai refills).

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## Winner: Ballard Farmers Market

Ballard families love visiting the [Ballard Farmers Market](#), open on Sundays year around. The market boasts diverse local vendors and entertaining buskers on a street lined with charming boutiques. We won't tell if you indulge in some sweet treats while you shop for local, organic produce and healthy prepared foods for the week ahead.

## Finalists

The [Edmonds Farmers Market](#) runs from late spring through early fall. Technically, the early market, called the Garden Market, runs from May through mid-June, and the Farmers Market runs from mid-June through September, but whatever you call it, you will find lots of fruits, vegetables, jewelry, clothing and more at this cheery Saturday market.

There are seven markets in the [Seattle Neighborhood Farmers Market](#) group, but two year-round markets stand out as reader favorites: the Friday Phinney Neighborhood Farmers Market and the Sunday West Seattle Neighborhood Farmers Market at the Junction.

The Saturday [Shoreline Farmers Market's](#) Power of Produce (PoP) Program distributes \$2 in market currency to kids ages 1–15 that can be used for purchasing fruits and vegetables.

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### Winner: MOD Pizza

Readers think the pies at [MOD Pizza](#) are primo. MOD believes pizza is best straight from the oven, so it doesn't deliver. Fortunately, with about a dozen Seattle-area MOD locations, families can conveniently enjoy the dine-in experience. Fast service and individualized pizzas (same price, no matter how many toppings!) keep kids happy, with no time to get antsy.

### Finalists

For more than four decades, family favorite [Pagliacci Pizza](#) has expanded from the University District to more than 20 locations throughout Seattle and the Eastside. Kids aren't always as excited about Pagliacci's creative seasonal pizzas as parents are, but everybody loves that it delivers, and cheese pizza aficionados (read: all kids) will crow about its signature, baked-on-bricks cheese pie.

The pizzeria category doesn't change much from year to year, but there's one newcomer to the list this year: [Spiro's Pizza and Pasta](#), with locations in West Seattle, Shoreline and Mukilteo, offers a classic pizzeria menu, with house-made pizza sauce and dough and 100% Danish mozzarella cheese.

Celebrating 15 years of tossing traditional Neapolitan pizza this year, [Tutta Bella Neapolitan Pizzeria](#) has five neighborhood shops spread out throughout Seattle, Bellevue and Issaquah. Ask about the Associazione Verace Pizza Napoletana to get a quick Italian history lesson about the disciplined method behind the Neapolitan pizza tradition.

Seek [Zeeks Pizza](#) locations in Seattle, Lynnwood and Bothell (to name just a few of many locales). Founders Tom and Doug named the well-loved shop after a surfer buddy who once mused, "Life is too short for crappy pizza." We couldn't agree more.

## 2019 Golden Teddy Awards — Food + Dining

### Winner: Red Robin Gourmet Burgers and Brews

Seattle-based chain [Red Robin Gourmet Burgers and Brews](#) dropped off the list last year, but now it's back as the 2019 winner! Some of the reasons ParentMap readers love Red Robin: bottomless fries served with a heavenly array of dipping sauces (try the campfire sauce on your next visit), table games, patient staff and a lively atmosphere where you don't have to worry about keeping the kids quiet.

### Finalists

Last year's winner, [Elliott Bay Brewing Company](#) offers traditional pub fare (fish and chips, burgers and beer), ample space and a laid-back, if often busy setting at locations in Lake City, West Seattle and Burien.

[Endolyne Joe's](#) in West Seattle satisfies kids with updated American classics while keeping things interesting for more adventurous eaters by taking the menu on a road trip through a different region of the country each quarter.

While the "lounge" side of the [Serendipity Cafe & Lounge](#) is strictly for the adults, the café side is a hit with Magnolia families. It offers coffee shop treats and delicious meals that parents can enjoy in peace while the kids hang out in the play area, reading books and playing games.

A perennial favorite with ParentMap readers, [Vios Cafe & Marketplace](#) serves traditional Mediterranean fare at its Capitol Hill location. Fans particularly crave the lamb skewers, spanakopita and galaktoboureko (creamy custard in flaky phyllo), and parents rave that the play area keeps kids busy.

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### Winner: Cupcake Royale

Our 2017 winner clinches the title again. [Cupcake Royale](#) isn't just a cupcake place: It also scoops up made-from-scratch ice cream and is the exclusive purveyor for Rodeo Donuts. With a different featured cupcake every month, seasonal ice cream flavors and doughnut offerings that rotate throughout the week, you might have to make Cupcake Royale a regular habit — you know, for scientific reasons.

### Finalists

Snohomish families rave about Cookies by Kellyanne ([Facebook](#)). One reader says, “Cute, tasty, made with love. Best ever!!” while another gushes, “The most beautiful cookies that actually taste good! And the nicest owner!” We couldn't have said it better ourselves.

[Hello Robin Cookies](#) got its start because Molly Moon Neitzel of Golden Teddy winner Molly Moon's Homemade Ice Cream encouraged baker Robin Wehl Martin to set up shop on Capitol Hill. And yes, you can get ice cream with your cookies.

[Larsen's Bakery](#) in Ballard has been serving Danish delectables for so long (more than 40 years!) that it's not just a taste of the old country, it's a taste of old Seattle. From marzipan marvels to wholesome breads, if it can be baked, Larsen's bakers can make it.

[Mighty-O Donuts](#) might not be good for diets, but they are good for the planet. All of Mighty-O's doughnuts are made with certified-organic ingredients and are free of GMOs, artificial flavors, additives, dyes and preservatives. (For those with allergies, they're also free of eggs and dairy.) All of which means you can indulge in a Cuckoo for Coconut doughnut guilt-free.