

Celebrating Our Achievements



Recognition from other organizations can have many different meanings to a nonprofit. It can mean more volunteers will raise their hands, more monetary support will be pledged, and more vibrant publications will be printed. It can mean more slaps on the back and more friendly handshakes when contacts are made.

When those awards are announced to the public, it can mean the spread of understanding for the cause; it can make the nonprofit famous, a household name. It can mean the spread of knowledge and help to other military families, their communities, their teachers, their schools, their friends. It can reinforce the sustained values of that organization. These crowning moments can be collected and cherished, as proof to what a small group of people have accomplished in the short span of a decade; that other important people think it's all pretty great, too.

But what these awards really do is celebrate children. It speaks for their unique situations, while also seeing the resiliency of those children and the pride of their families. It tells the story of the military-connected child and who is out there, rooting for them.

When the Military Child Education Coalition gratefully celebrates the awards and accolades received in the past ten years, it means a celebration of military-connected children, and that has the most meaning of all.

*“America is proud, proud of what you do
You’re in our hearts and prayers, America supports you.”*

~ Megan, Grade 6
From “America’s Soldier”



Celebrating Our Achievements

The Military Child Education Coalition is proud to create quality programs and publications, and is touched by other organizations' recognition of the hard work of both the MCEC's staff and global volunteers. The following accolades not only reflect the heart that goes into the MCEC, but also shines a public light on the purpose: military-connected children.

The Robert M. Yerkes Award for the LINN Institute, 2008

On August 15, 2008, the Society for Military Psychology, Division 19 of the American Psychological Association, awarded the Robert M. Yerkes Award to Mrs. Patricia ("Patty") Shinseki, on the basis of her work with the Military Child Education Coalition.

Mrs. Shinseki currently serves on the MCEC Board of Directors, and she spearheaded the effort to develop the Living In the New Normal: Supporting Children Through Trauma and Loss (LINN) program for the Military Child Education Coalition. Prior to the establishment and careful implementation of the MCEC's Living In the New Normal: Supporting Children through Trauma and Loss (LINN) Initiative, there was no systematic program in place in the U.S. to assist children who have had a parent killed or seriously wounded while in service to our country. The program was developed in consultation with experts in the fields of trauma, grief, resiliency, healthcare, and child development. Patty Shinseki's efforts with MCEC and LINN have improved the lives of hundreds of thousands of military children.

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**Who is Robert Yerkes?
The Yerkes Award is named for Robert M. Yerkes, the "Founding Father" of military psychology and is best known for his work in intelligence testing. The Yerkes Award is given for significant contributions to military psychology by a non-psychologist.**



The Congressional Club Charity of the Year, April, 2004

The MCEC was named the Congressional Club Charity of the Year April 22, 2004. First Lady Laura Bush presented the award in conjunction with the Congressional Club's First Lady's Luncheon. At the MCEC's annual conference in Colorado in July, Lee Ann Edwards, spouse of Congressman Chet Edwards of the 11th Congressional District of Texas, presented a check from the Congressional Club.

The award was presented to the MCEC in recognition for its efforts to improve educational opportunities for military children. Its efforts in identifying educational challenges facing military children and then working with educational and military communities to address those needs were key elements in the decision for the award.

Niarchos Survivorship Prize, 2008

The Niarchos Survivorship Prize, established in 2004, promotes resilience and recovery for war-torn communities. It encourages survivors of war, conflict, and genocide to contribute to reconstruction, reconciliation, and healthy and peaceful societies. The Military Child Education Coalition was honored May 6, 2008, in NYC by the Survivor Corps (formerly Landmine Survivors Network) and the Stavros S. Niarchos Foundation with the 2008 Organization Niarchos Survivorship Prize. The prize was given for the MCEC's Living In the New Normal: Supporting Children through Trauma & Loss (LINN) initiative, also created in 2004.

Best In America Charity, 2008

The MCEC is designated a Best In America Charity. The Independent Charities Seal of Excellence is awarded to the members of Independent Charities of America and Local Independent Charities of America that have, upon rigorous independent review, been able to certify, document, and demonstrate on an annual basis that they meet the highest standards of public accountability, program effectiveness, and cost effectiveness. These standards include those required by the US Government for inclusion in the Combined Federal Campaign, probably the most exclusive fund drive in the world. Of the 1,000,000 charities operating in the United States today, it is estimated that fewer than 50,000, or five percent, meet or exceed these standards, and, of those, fewer than 2,000 have been awarded this Seal.





Recognition for Publications and Design

American Advertising Awards

- 2007 - The American Advertising Federation of Central Texas presented a bronze ADDY for the Tell Me Your Story Illustration Campaign.
- 2006 - The 10th District American Advertising Federation of Central Texas presented a gold ADDY for the MCEC's Growing, Learning, Understanding Growth Chart.
- 2006 - The 10th District American Advertising Federation of Central Texas presented a Special Judges' Award for the Growing, Learning, Understanding Growth Chart.
- 2005 - The 10th District American Advertising Federation of Central Texas presented a bronze ADDY for Tell Me A Story Illustrations (Elements of Advertising/Illustration, Illustration Campaign).
- 2005 - The 10th District American Advertising Federation of Central Texas presented a gold ADDY for Tell Me A Story (Illustration Campaign).
- 2004 - The Advertising Club of Waco and Central Texas Ad League presented a bronze ADDY for Military Parents' Guide to No Child Left Behind (Elements of Advertising).
- 2001 - The Advertising Club of Waco and Central Texas Ad League presented a bronze award for the MCEC's *On the Move* publication in the area of Public Service, Print Media, Magazine.
- 2001 - The Advertising Club of Waco and Central Texas Ad League presented a silver award for the MCEC's Secondary Education Transition Study Report publication in the area of Public Service, Collateral Material, Annual Report.

Texas School Public Relations Association Awards

2007

The Texas Public Relations Association presented the following awards for the MCEC's publications:

Best of Category

- While You Are Away (Workbook, Handbooks/Manuals, +30,000 students/members category)
- Tell Me Your Story illustrations (Original Art, +30,000 students/members category)

Gold Star Awards

- Chart Your Course (Image Identity Package, +30,000 students/members category)
- *On The Move* magazine (Magazine, +30,000 students/members category)
- Growing, Learning, Understanding (GLU) Growth Chart (Poster, +30,000 students/members category)
- 9th Annual Pre-conference Mailer (Invitations/Announcements, +30,000 students/members category)
- Chart Your Course Academic Passport (Booklet, +30,000 students/members category)
- SchoolQuest (Brochure, +30,000 students/members category)

2006

The Texas Public Relations Association presented the following awards for the MCEC's publications:

Best of Category

- Chart Your Course Roadmap (Posters, +30,000 students/members category)
- A Legislator's Guide to Military Children (Posters, +30,000 students/members category)
- Four Seasons Watercolors (Original Art, +30,000 students/members category)

Gold Star Awards

- A Legislator's Guide to Military Children (Handbook/Manual, +30,000 students/members category)
- Getting Your Ducklings in a Row (Handbook/Manual, +30,000 students/members category)
- The MCEC Press Kit (Handbook/Manual, +30,000 students/members category)



“ The MCEC’s publications are thorough, have excellent production values, are well-written and edited, with nice graphics; a different class than what most produce... outstanding pieces!”

~ Judges comments
from the 2008 TSPRA Awards



- GLU Kit - Making Meaning Through Family Literacy Toolkits (Image, Identity Package, +30,000 students/members category)
- Four Seasons Watercolors (Original Art, +30,000 students/members category)
- GLU Kit (Handbook/Manual, +30,000 students/members category)
- Reaching New Heights for Children (Original Art, +30,000 students/members category)
- Family Traditions for All Seasons (Booklet, +30,000 students/members category)
- The MCEC Annual Calendar (Calendar/Planner, +30,000 students/members category)
- The MCEC 8th Annual Conference Program (Programs, +30,000 students/members category)
- Chart Your Course Roadmap (Posters, +30,000 students/members category)
- Holiday Card, Note Card, and Bookmark Collection (Holiday, +30,000 students/members category)
- On The Move magazine (Magazines, +30,000 students/members category)

Silver Awards

- GLU: Making Meaning Through Early Literacy (Logo, Trademark, Symbol, +30,000 students/members category)
- Recipe for Success Logo (Logo, Trademark, Symbol, +30,000 students/members category)

2005

The Texas Public Relations Association presented the following awards for the MCEC's publications:

Gold Star Awards

- How Communities Can Support Children and Families of Those Serving in the National Guard and Reserves (Flyer Brochure, +20,000 students/members category)
- Preparing for the Journey (Booklet, +20,000 students/members category)
- The MCEC Calendar (Calendar Planner, +20,000 students/members category)
- *On The Move* magazine (Magazine, +20,000 students/members category)

Silver Star Awards

- The MCEC Informational Flyer (Flyer Brochure, +20,000 students/members)
- The MCEC Conference Program - "Making Connections for Children" (Programs, 20,000 students/members)
- www.MilitaryChild.org (website, +20,000 students/members)

"I'm proud to be a military child because of everything it has taught me. I've gone through millions of goodbyes, welcomes, tears, laughs, and smiles. I've been a military child since the day I was born. It's my first nature and a title I live by. My father has given up everything for my family and me to live in this free land. We have crossed oceans with him supporting his every decision.

The simple feeling of knowing that why he is there and what he believes in makes me smile and have the pride to stand up for what I believe in. Military families must always stick together. Get each other through the good and bad times. This life I was born into has helped me succeed and believe that not only the military families should stick together, but the world should stick together. Like President Lincoln said, "United We Stand, Divided We Fall." After fifteen years this is just a portion of what I've learned from being a military child."



- Paige, Grade 10
From "The Art of Being a Military Child"