

Contact:

Jodi Pushkin, Manager
Tampa Bay Times Newspaper in Education
jpushkin@tampabay.com
727-893-8961

Newspaper in Education wins Creative Excellence Awards

June 2026: Three educational publications produced by the Tampa Bay Times Newspaper in Education program have received awards in the Florida Advertising and Marketing Executives 2026 [Creative Excellence Contest](#).

This annual contest celebrates the best in graphic design and recognizes outstanding achievements in visual communication, branding, illustration and digital design.

[Pasco Recycling 2026](#) was awarded a Gold Award in the Custom Publication category. This publication, created in partnership with [Pasco County Recycling](#) and [Pasco County Schools](#), educates Pasco County residents on recycling resources, programs and events in Pasco County. This publication was designed by Matthew Southard of the [Tampa Bay Times](#).

[Science of Chocolate](#) was awarded a Silver Award in the Custom Publication category. This publication explores how the chocolate-making process has evolved from ancient Mesoamerica to the present day. This publication was created in partnership with [American Heritage Chocolate](#). It was designed by Stacy Rector of [Fluid Graphic Design](#).

[50 Years of Celebrating Tampa Bay's Diverse Cultural Heritages](#) was awarded a Bronze Award in the Custom Publication category. This publication explores the cultures participating in the 2026 St. Petersburg International Folk Fair. It was created in partnership with the [St. Petersburg International Folk Fair Society](#) and designed by Stacy Rector of [Fluid Graphic Design](#).

In addition, NIE – Science of Chocolate, a short video about the Science of Chocolate project, was awarded a Silver Award in the Best Online Video Application category. It was created by Dan Canoro of the [Tampa Bay Times](#).

Winners were recognized at an awards ceremony at the 2026 Florida Media Conference, held June 4-5 in Orlando, Fla.

The [Tampa Bay Times Newspaper in Education program](#) (NIE) serves educators, students, families and community members in the Tampa Bay area by providing classroom access to the Pulitzer Prize-winning Tampa Bay Times plus award-winning original educational publications, teacher guides, lesson plans, educator professional development resources and much more – all at no cost to schools, teachers or families. NIE is a member of [Florida Press Educational Services](#) (FPES), a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization of newspaper professionals that promotes literacy, civic engagement and critical thinking, particularly for young people.

###