

## **2020 San Diego's Best Union-Tribune Readers Poll Rules and Regulations**

San Diegans share their “best” picks in the annual San Diego’s Best U-T Readers Poll. In 2019, we asked readers to nominate the best in 175 categories – from Best Brunch to Best Beach, from Best Movie Theatre to Best Museum, from Best Camera Store to Best Dermatologist, and nearly everything in between.

This year, the call for nominations begins on March 22nd – April 26th. You can then vote for your favorites and San Diego’s best May 11th – June 9th. Winners are revealed in the SD Best special section publishing online and in print on August 23rd.

Like any election, the results represent the total votes received. So for those businesses that came out on top, they’re obviously doing something right since the majority of voters in that category deem the winner to be the “best”. And many of these votes are based on personal experiences. So don’t forget to nominate your best and favorites!

### **IMPORTANT DATES**

**NOMINATE businesses in more than 175 categories between March 22nd – April 26th**

**VOTE for San Diego’s best and your favorites between May 11th – June 9th**

**WINNERS are revealed in the SD Best special section publishing online and in print on August 23rd**

### **Rules and Regulations**

1. San Diego’s Best: Union-Tribune Readers Poll (the “Contest”) is sponsored by San Diego Union Tribune Communications LLC, 600 B Street #1201, San Diego, CA 92101 (“Sponsor”).
2. The Contest is divided into approximately 175 categories (each, a “Category”), and participants can nominate candidates (“Candidates”) in Categories. Participants may submit nominations (“Nominations”) from March 22, 2020 at 12:00am PT to April 26, 2020 at 11:59pm PT (the “Nomination Period”). Sponsor’s computer is the official time-keeping device for this Contest.
3. To be eligible, the Candidate must satisfy be a business, entity, or individual providing services located in one of the following counties: San Diego. Nominators and voters must be 18 or older and legal residents of the 50 United States or District of Columbia. You are not eligible to participate as a nominator, voter, or Candidate if you are an employee of Sponsor, California Times, or any of their respective parent companies, advertising companies, affiliates, subsidiaries, promotion contractors and/or public relations companies or any other entity that participated in the creation, operation or fulfillment of this Contest or you are a member of the immediate family of any such employee. “Immediate family” includes only spouses, parents, siblings and children.
4. All Nominations will be approved by Sponsor staff before they’re included publicly in the Contest. However, as noted below, publication of a Nomination on the Contest Web Site does not constitute an acknowledgment or determination of satisfaction of these Official Rules, including without limitation eligibility limitations and submission requirements.

5. Provided a sufficient number of eligible Nominations are received, Sponsor will provide a list of up to 10 finalists per Category for voting. If there are more than 10 Nominations in a Category, Sponsor will select the 10 finalists in that Category based on the highest number of nominations. Winners will be determined by popular vote, and the voting period will run from May 11, 2020 at 12:00am PT to June 9, 2020 at 11:59 PT (the "Voting Period"). To fill out a ballot ("Ballot") and vote, visit <http://www.sdbestpoll.com>. You will be asked to register (registration is free) prior to casting your votes. Select your favorite business, organization, event, activity, item, product, community or individual from the options provided. Repeat the process for as many Categories as desired. Complete your Ballot, then click "Submit." Limit one Ballot per person, per device within a 24-hour time period. All subsequent Ballots from any person or device will be considered void. Ballots must be submitted during the Voting Period.

6. You may, but are not required to, submit a comment ("Comment") in connection with your Nomination or Ballot. The Comment must not contain material that: (a) violates or infringes another's rights, including but not limited to privacy, publicity or intellectual property rights, or that constitutes copyright infringement; (b) disparages Sponsor or any other person or party affiliated with the promotion and administration of this Contest; (c) was not created by you; (d) is inappropriate, indecent, obscene hateful, tortious, or defamatory; (e) promotes bigotry, racism, hatred or harm against any group or individual or promotes discrimination based on race, gender, religion, nationality, disability, sexual orientation or age; or (f) is unlawful.

7. For each Comment you post, upload, or otherwise make available ("Provide"), you grant Sponsor and California Times, Inc. (Sponsor's parent company) a worldwide, royalty-free, perpetual, irrevocable, non-exclusive right and fully sub-licensable license to use, copy, reproduce, distribute, publish, publicly perform, publicly display, modify, adapt, translate, archive, store, and create derivative works from such Comment, in any form, format, or medium, of any kind now known or later developed. Without limiting the generality of the previous sentence, you authorize Sponsor and California Times to: (a) share the Comment across all websites, mobile applications, newspapers and other online services affiliated with California Times; (b) include the Comment in a searchable format accessible by users of the website and other California Times websites, mobile applications, newspapers and other online services; (c) place advertisements in close proximity to such Comment; and (d) use your name, likeness and any other information in connection with our use of the material you provide. You waive all moral rights with respect to any Comment you provide. You also grant Sponsor and California Times the right to use any material, information, ideas, concepts, know-how or techniques contained in any communication you provide or otherwise submit for any purpose whatsoever, including but not limited to, commercial purposes, and developing, manufacturing and marketing commercial products using such information. All rights in this section are granted without the need for additional compensation of any sort by Sponsor or California Times to you.

8. Voters who fail to provide any required information may be disqualified without further notification by Sponsor. Sponsor is not responsible for Nominations, Ballots, or votes that are lost, misdirected, garbled, distorted, truncated, incomplete, illegible, incorrect or late for any reason, and all such Nominations, Ballots, and/or votes are void. Sponsor reserves the right in its sole discretion to disqualify any Nomination, voter, Ballot, and/or vote at any time that in its opinion does not comply with these

Official Rules. If a dispute arises regarding compliance with these Official Rules, Sponsor may consider, in its sole discretion, data reasonably available to Sponsor through information technology systems in Sponsor's control, but Sponsor will not be obligated to consider any data or other information collected from any other source. Information received from nominators and voters becomes the property of Sponsor and will not be returned or acknowledged. The information that you provide in connection with the Contest will be used by Sponsor in accordance with its Privacy Policy, which is found at <https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/privacy-policy> and which may be updated from time to time.

9. Because of spelling errors and variations on names, Sponsor will attempt to standardize the Nominations to match the vote to the correct Candidate, and such decisions are in the sole discretion of Sponsor. Sponsor reserves the right to refuse Nominations for Candidates that are deemed not appropriate for the Category for which the Nominations were cast.

10. The leading vote recipients in each Category will be declared the winners. If there is a tie, the tied entries will each be named winners at that level. A Candidate may be honored in more than one Category, but votes will not be combined across Categories. Vote totals will not be published.

11. If potential winner does not have a physical location in San Diego or is otherwise determined to be ineligible, Sponsor in its discretion may disqualify that Candidate and an alternate winner will be chosen applying the criteria set forth above as soon as reasonably practicable after such disqualification.

12. The winners will not receive a prize. The winners will be listed in the SD Best special section publishing online and in print on August 23, 2020. Public recognition has no retail value, and if, for any reason, a winner is not listed in the San Diego Union-Tribune, no alternate prize will be awarded.

13. It is the intention of Sponsor to honor a winner in each Category, provided a sufficient number of eligible Candidates receive votes.

14. Nominations, Ballots, and/or votes generated by a script, macro, or other automated means will be disqualified. You must be at least 18 years old and a legal resident of the United States to submit a Nomination and vote. All nominators and voters must be located in the United States at the time they cast their vote. Proxy voting is not allowed. No one may purchase votes. Any use of robotic, repetitive, automatic, programmed, script, macro, or any other automated means or similar entry methods or agents, vote exchange websites, vote "farming" or other method to vote or unfairly increase votes, as determined by Sponsor in its sole discretion, is prohibited and will void all Nominations, Ballots, and/or votes submitted by that participant. Moreover, if Sponsor concludes, in its sole discretion, that any Candidate has colluded with any nominator or voter to violate these Official Rules or has participated in or actively encouraged such activity, whether directly or indirectly, Sponsor may disqualify that Candidate from further participation in the Contest. Sponsor reserves the right in its sole discretion to disqualify any Nomination, Ballot, or vote at any time that in its opinion does not comply with these Official Rules.

15. Sponsor reserves the right to disqualify any voter or Candidate from further participation in the Contest if Sponsor concludes, in its sole discretion, that such voter or Candidate: (a) has attempted to tamper with the voting process or other operation of the Contest; (b) has disregarded or has attempted to circumvent these Official Rules; or (c) has acted toward Sponsor or any other Candidate or voter in an unfair, inequitable, deliberately annoying, threatening, disrupting or harassing manner. If a dispute

arises regarding compliance with these Official Rules, Sponsor may consider, in its sole discretion, data reasonably available to Sponsor through information technology systems in Sponsor's control, but Sponsor will not be obligated to consider any data or other information collected from any other source. Any failure by Sponsor to enforce any of these Official Rules will not constitute a waiver of such Official Rules.

16. Sponsor reserves the right to cancel, suspend or terminate this Contest or any part thereof, if Sponsor determines, in its sole discretion, that the security, administration, fairness and/or operation of the Contest has been corrupted or impaired by any non-authorized intervention, network failure, information storage failure, telecommunications failure, malfunction, or any other cause beyond Sponsor's control. If Sponsor terminates the Contest, during the Nomination Period Sponsor will post notice of same on the Contest webpage and will not select winners. If Sponsor terminates the Contest, during the Voting Period Sponsor will post notice of same on the Contest webpage and select the winners in each Category by applying the criteria set forth above based on eligible, non-suspect votes received as of the termination date, June 9, 2020. By submitting a Nomination or voting, the participant acknowledges the understanding of and agreement with these Official Rules.

17. Complimentary products or services offered in exchange for votes is prohibited.