

Dear Colleagues,

As the Editor-in-Chief of *Children*, it is my great pleasure to announce the winner of the *Children* 2022 Best PhD Thesis Award. This award is for a PhD student or recently qualified PhD who has produced a highly anticipated thesis with great academic potential.

The award has been granted to:

"The Italian Validation of the Social Skills Program PEERS® in Adolescents with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD): A Randomized Controlled Trial" By Laura Maria Fatta, Sapienza University of Rome, Italy.

The winner will receive CHF 800, an electronic certificate and a chance to publish a paper free of charge after peer review in *Children* in 2023.

On behalf of the evaluation committee, I congratulate the winner on their accomplishments. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all the applicants for submitting their exceptional theses, and thank the Award Committee for voting and helping with this award.

Prof. Dr. Paul R. Carney Editor-in-Chief, *Children*

