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Music Video featuring Special Needs Kids wins Telly Award

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Director Jeffrey Kubach (L) with Shaw

The 34th Annual Telly Awards has named Jennifer Shaw as a Bronze winner in the Internet/Online Video-Music Video category for her song “Your Child.” Co-written by Shaw and Lifeway’s Songwriter of the Year, Paul Marino, the song is featured on Shaw’s latest album, *Someday*, produced by Marino. The music video debuted a few weeks ago on Focus on the Family’s “I Am Pro-Life” Facebook page to over half a million followers and has been used by Joni Eareckson Tada’s organization, Joni and Friends, a worldwide organization which serves people with disabilities.

Produced and directed by Jeffrey Kubach whose credits include the hit television shows “Survivor” and “Burn Notice,” the video of the song “Your Child” features real-life photos and videos of special needs families from across the country.

Shaw, whose own son was diagnosed with Sensory Processing Disorder (SPD), invited special needs parents via her website and social networks to send in their photos and stories. The video depicts various special needs conditions including Down’s Syndrome, Fetal Alcohol Syndrome, as well as Shaw’s own son who was diagnosed with SPD at a very young age. SPD is closely aligned with autism in that every autistic child has some form of SPD. One study estimated that 1 in 20 children in the U.S. are affected by the disorder. Shaw’s first book entitled, *Life Not Typical: How Special Needs Parenting Changed my Faith and my Song*, chronicles the family’s journey and was recently added to the Resource Library of Autism Speaks, the world’s leading autism science and advocacy organization. Shaw will be a special guest on the Family Life Today radio show in the coming weeks as well as being featured on Insight for Living Ministries.

The “Your Child” video was selected from among 13,000 entries from all fifty states and numerous countries. A judging panel of over 500 accomplished industry professionals, each a past Telly winner, judged the competition. The Telly Awards was founded in 1979 and is the premier award honoring outstanding local, regional, and cable TV commercials and programs, the finest video and film productions, and online commercials, video and films. Past winners have included NBC Universal, Sony, Walt Disney, Johnson and Johnson, and the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association, among many others.

With degrees in both piano and vocal performance, Shaw completed her graduate work in opera performance at the prestigious Manhattan School of Music. A former professor at Cedarville University, Shaw is now a popular speaker and top 40 Billboard artist, garnering a #3 hit song on the national Inspirational radio charts. For more information on Jennifer Shaw and to view the “Your Child” video, visit www.JenniferShaw.com or YouTube.

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