

#13
January 2021

THIS MONTH —

Looking Back at 2020

A lot happened last year! Google debuted a revamped set of icons that a lot of people, including us, had thoughts about. We introduced our Labs™ space to the world. In case you didn't get enough of 2020's buzzwords and storylines, we built a lorem ipsum generator to keep a few of them from disappearing down the memory hole. Not to mention adding a trio of spectacular team members!

In a year that made pivoting, resilience, and longer hair the norm, we found new ways to connect and create for our clients and ourselves. Let's go, team.

Featured work —

Yes, we're looking back, but our featured work this month is a tool to send good wishes and energy out into the world for the coming year! At brighter2021.com you can make a wish and watch Ava (our lovable mascot) carry it out to the stars. Also, for each of the first 505 wishes we're donating \$1.01 to the Urban Ministries of Durham. Let's start the year off right with good energy and good will.

[View our new year site →](https://brighter2021.com)



★ The more you know —

[Cognitive Load: How Google Missed the Mark →](#)

We take a closer look at why so many folks were bumping against Google's new icon set and provide our own take.

Jenna Spanswick & Drew Glover, Savas Labs

[Meet GPT-3. It Has Learned to Code \(and Blog and Argue\) →](#)

The recently-released AI has been surprising experts across all disciplines.

Cade Metz, The New York Times

[The Most Hearted of 2020 →](#)

Browse through CodePen's most popular code sketches of 2020.

CodePen

[Google Design: Best of 2020 →](#)

A look back at the year's most resilient design projects.

Google Design

[2020 Ipsum →](#)

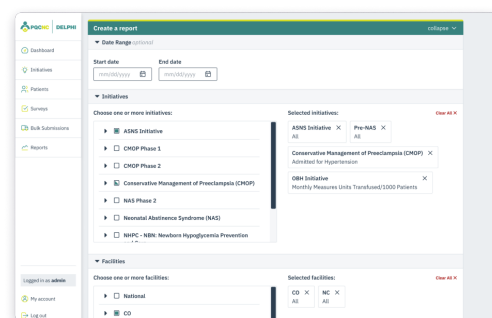
A lorem ipsum generator to commemorate the things from 2020 we'd probably like to forget.

Savas Labs

📢 Client shoutout —

This month's shoutout goes to the Perinatal Quality Collaborative of North Carolina, affectionately referred to as PQCNC (pronounced *pick-nick*). One of Savas' longest-running clients, PQCNC's mission is to make North Carolina the best place to give birth and be born. Recently, we overhauled their data collection dashboard, DELPHI, to be more performant and friendly to use. Take a look at our process and the improvements we made throughout the dashboard's front and back-ends.

[Read the case study →](#)



🎉 And now, a GIF —



Celebrate the small things, but don't forget to celebrate the big things, too.

😊 Meet the team —

Savas goes West! Say hi to our new Senior Front-end Developer, **Ben Tinsley**. Based in the Denver metro area, Ben brings along a bevy of development experience (and affection for Georgia sports teams), including work for Coca-Cola and Couchsurfing. He may be the second Ben on the Savas team, but he certainly isn't the second Ben in our hearts.

[Get to know Ben →](#)



Thanks for reading. Here's to 2021!

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