



**NEWS RELEASE**  
**For Immediate Release**

**Contact: Endsley Eggert, Marketing Manager**  
**303-974-7947**  
**[info@cheesesociety.org](mailto:info@cheesesociety.org)**

**OVER 1,300 AMERICAN-MADE CHEESES COMPETE TO BECOME “BEST OF SHOW” – WINNERS TO BE ANNOUNCED AT AMERICAN CHEESE SOCIETY ANNUAL CONFERENCE IN JULY**

DENVER, Colo. – May 27, 2022 – The American Cheese Society Judging & Competition (J&C), the largest event of its kind for American-made cheeses, wrapped up two-days of judging at the Huntington Bank Stadium at the University of Minnesota. Over 1,350 cheeses in 120 categories were submitted to be judged by an esteemed panel of 30 judges in the hopes to become “Best of Show”.

Cheeses entered in the competition were received May 17-18, 2022, with judging from May 19-20. Growing from just 89 entries 38 years ago, the ACS J&C welcomed cheeses and cultured dairy products from 206 companies this year. “J&C is a momentous event for cheesemakers who collectively and continually advance the quality of American cheese.” said Lynn Giacomini Stray, Board President of ACS. “They also get the opportunity for valuable feedback from expert judges.”

The ACS Competition shines the spotlight on American cheesemakers by showcasing their talents and work as leaders within the industry, both for their excellent cheesemaking and commitment to food safety. Winners of J&C will be announced at an Award Ceremony during the 39<sup>th</sup> ACS Annual Conference, held in Portland Oregon, from July 20 – 23, 2022. For a list of past J&C winners and judges, visit <https://www.cheesesociety.org/competition-winners>.

The 39<sup>th</sup> ACS Conference will gather artisan cheesemakers, industry professionals, purchasers, and influencers from the United States, Canada, and Europe. Registration for the “Blazing the Trail for Cheese” event is open at <https://www.cheesesociety.org/2022-conference/> The schedule of events and extensive roster of speakers offer attendees unparalleled educational.

**About American Cheese Society**

ACS is the leading organization supporting the understanding, appreciation, and promotion of artisan, farmstead, and specialty cheeses produced in the Americas. At 2,300 members strong, ACS provides advocacy, education, business development, and networking opportunities for cheesemakers, retailers, enthusiasts, and extended industry. ACS strives to continually raise the quality and availability of cheese in the Americas. Since its founding in 1983, ACS proudly hosts the foremost annual educational conference and world-renowned cheese judging and competition in North America. ACS is a 501(c)6 nonprofit association headquartered in Denver, CO. To learn more about ACS, please visit [www.cheesesociety.org](http://www.cheesesociety.org) or contact 720-328-2788.

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