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New England Made Giftware and Specialty Food Show 2025 Announces Award-Winning Exhibitors and Products

PORTLAND, ME – March 26, 2025 – The New England Made Giftware and Specialty Food Show (NEM) wrapped up another successful spring event this March, bringing together hundreds of small businesses and more than a thousand buyers from across the region. The 41st annual wholesale giftware show highlighted exceptional craftsmanship and innovation through its annual Best New Product Showcase and Best Booth Awards, honoring outstanding exhibitors in both product excellence and booth design. Best New Product awards are voted on by retailers attending the show and the Best Booth awards are selected by jury.

Best New Product Showcase Winners

Giftware Category:

1st Place: Laura Zindel Design – “Large Bowl: Sitting Hare” (Brattleboro, VT)

2nd Place: Hüga Heat – “Hüga Heated Cushion” (Portland, ME)

Honorable Mention: Maine Shellware – “Antique Silver Hibiscus Flower Pendant” (Bangor, ME)

Specialty Food Category:

1st Place: Buoy Pops – “Variety Pack of 6” (Harpwell, ME)

2nd Place: The Scone Goddess – “Maine Maple Premium Scone Mix” (Northport, ME)

Honorable Mention: Wood Stove Kitchen – “Glitter Mimosa Mixer” (Bow, NH)

“At its core, the New England Made Show is about helping businesses grow,” said Stefa Normantas, Show Producer of New England Made Shows. “From connecting with new buyers to gaining exposure and industry feedback, this event is designed to support New England makers at every stage. Whether you’re just starting out or an established brand, the show offers a platform to grow, connect, and thrive. We’re proud to see our exhibitors not only showcase incredible products but also take meaningful steps forward in building their businesses.”

Best Booth Award Winners sponsored by the Maine Small Business Development Center

New Exhibitor:

First Place: Chad's Hot Sauce (Mount Desert Island, ME) – A moody, mini-restaurant ambiance with interactive touches and rich storytelling.

Honorable Mention: Mimihali (Westbrook, ME) – A bright, cheerful space filled with dynamic 3D displays and an interactive layout.

Veteran Exhibitor:

First Place: Yam Collective (York, ME) – A serene, minimalist oasis with refined fixtures and meticulous design.

Honorable Mention: MacKenzie's (Atkinson, NH) – A cohesively branded, visually immersive booth experience.

John Entwistle Award for Booth Excellence:

Waterline Studio (Manchester, MA) – A welcoming, cottage-like space that celebrates creativity and product joy with simplicity and warmth.

“It is great to see hundreds of small businesses come together at this show year after year—making connections, writing orders, and growing,” said Peter Harriman, Center Director, Maine SBDC. “The SBDC is proud to support these businesses and excited to see both new and veteran exhibitors bring their best, showcasing the creativity and strength of small businesses.”

About New England Made Giftware and Specialty Food Shows

New England Made Giftware and Specialty Food Shows are the region's premier wholesale events featuring unique, locally made gifts, specialty food, and home décor from New England makers. The shows support and elevate businesses, giving them the opportunity to connect with buyers and grow their brand. More details are available at www.nemadeshows.com

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