



**PRESS RELEASE: The Connecticut Specialty Food Association Honors
The Gracious Gourmet with 5 Specialty Food Awards**

Bridgewater, CT – April 4, 2016 — The Connecticut Specialty Food Association (CSFA) awarded The Gracious Gourmet five awards in three categories during its Product Awards Competition at the end of March. The winning products are:

Tapenade

- 1st Place: The Gracious Gourmet Portobello Mushroom Tapenade
- 2nd Place: The Gracious Gourmet Roasted Vegetable Tapenade

Relish

- 1st Place: The Gracious Gourmet Sweet Caramelized ONions

Fruit Sauce

- 2nd Place TIE: The Gracious Gourmet Mango Pineapple Chutney
- AND
- The Gracious Gourmet Roasted Poblano Peach Spread

“Our products are meant to make life easier for those people who love great flavor and care about quality ingredients, but who don’t always have the time to put everything together,” says Nancy Wechselbaum, founder. “We’ve gotten great feedback on our tapenades, fruit spreads and chutneys because they put a fresh spin on classic condiments. We are very proud that the judges recognized our company.”

A total of 168 specialty food items from Connecticut-based manufacturers were entered into 39 categories. A panel of 15 judges scored products on overall taste/flavor, texture, aroma, and appearance/color. Each judge was assigned to specific categories, responsible for evaluating an average of approximately 50 different products.

The Gracious Gourmet has won awards from the CSFA every year since we started in late 2006.

Background on The Gracious Gourmet: Based in Bridgewater, Connecticut, Nancy Wechselbaum founded The Gracious Gourmet in late 2006 using her personal recipes crafted from a love of exceptional food and inspired by many personal and professional travels around the globe. The growing line of specialty food products can transform ordinary dishes into exceptional ones without any fuss. The quality of The Gracious Gourmet’s products is second to none, and their uses are nearly unlimited. Our customers are busy, sophisticated people who are looking to save time yet still serve exciting and innovative food. The Gracious Gourmet’s aim is quite simple: every meal can be a special occasion. Winner of the NASFT soft Gold Award for Outstanding Condiment for Spiced Sour Cherry Spread and a 2009 soft Silver Finalist for Outstanding New Product for Dilled Carrot Tomato Tapenade, as well as numerous awards from the Connecticut Specialty Food Association and the Scoville Awards.

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