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Contact: Rebecca Sherman Orozco

rorozco@cheesesociety.org

(720) 328-2788

CALL FOR ENTRIES OPENS FOR 2013 ACS JUDGING & COMPETITION

Denver, CO (April 8, 2013) – The American Cheese Society (ACS) has opened the Call for Entries for its [2013 Judging & Competition](#). This annual judging of American cheeses and cultured dairy products will take place on July 29 and 30 at Monona Terrace Community & Convention Center in Madison, WI – immediately prior to [ACS 30th Anniversary: In a Dairy State of Mind](#), the ACS Annual Conference, which will be held from July 31 to August 3 at Monona Terrace.

The largest competition of its kind, the ACS Judging & Competition saw a record 1,711 entries in 2012, submitted by 254 cheesemakers – and participation in the 2013 Judging & Competition is expected to be stronger than ever. The ACS Judging & Competition Committee has enlisted 38 expert judges to evaluate products across 104 different categories. The Judging & Competition recognizes cheeses of the highest quality for their aesthetic and technical merits. The top cheeses are those that the judges feel deserve the recognition of an award, based on a minimum point threshold. After two intense days of judging, first-place winners in each category are evaluated together, and a “Best of Show” is chosen. Winners will be revealed at the annual ACS Awards Ceremony on Friday, August 2 at Monona Terrace.

The 2013 Call for Entries is open through Friday, May 24. The entry fee for each product is \$60 through May 17. From May 18 to May 24, the entry fee will increase to \$85. For the second year, ACS is accepting entries via its online entry system. Producers can log into the ACS website to enter new products, or to view previous year’s entries and make edits or additions for 2013.

Registration for the ACS Annual Conference will open on Monday, May 6. Individuals who purchase a full conference registration or a Friday Day Pass can attend the ACS Awards Ceremony on August 2. Individual tickets to the Awards Ceremony may also be purchased by ACS members beginning on May 6.

For more information about the 2013 ACS Conference & Competition, visit the [ACS website](#).

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About the American Cheese Society (ACS)

ACS is the leading organization supporting the understanding, appreciation, and promotion of farmstead, artisan and specialty cheeses produced in the Americas. At 1,500 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. The 2013 ACS Conference & Competition will be held in Madison, WI from July 31-August 3, 2013. For more information, visit <http://www.cheesesociety.org>.