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America's Premier Vegetarian Lifestyle Magazine Announces Winners of 2007 Veggie Awards

VegNews readers have spoken. The votes are in and have been counted, recounted, then counted once more. And unlike Florida (2000) or Ohio (2004), no politically appointed election officials had their hand in the results.

VegNews, America's premier vegetarian lifestyle magazine, is set to announce the winners of the 2007 Veggie Awards, the most coveted honor in the vegetarian industry. Published in their November+December edition, the Veggie Awards are the largest survey of its kind in the world, with 20,000 readers voting for their favorite vegetarian people, products, and places in nearly 50 categories. Also featured are 20 editors' picks, where the magazine's editorial staff recognizes the movers and shakers of the veg world.

Cookies, handbags, face creams, cookbooks, faux meats, ice cream... most everything today is practically guaranteed to have a vegan version, or twelve. Add to that the restaurants, B&Bs, bakeries, non-profits, speakers, and celebs who together have created a culture of compassionate living, and it becomes clear that the vegetarian movement has transformed into a powerful force for social change both on and off the marketplace.

Here's a sneak preview at a few of the 2007 Veggie Award winners (readers' picks):

Best Veg Restaurant: Candle 79 (New York City)

Best Faux Meat: Boca Ground Round

Best Vegan Bakery: Vegan Treats (Bethlehem, PA)

Best Non-Dairy Milk: Silk

Best Vegan Cheese: Tofutti

Best Online Store: Vegan Essentials

Best Veg-friendly City: New York

Following is a sampling of what VN editors uncovered:

Company of the Year: Tree Huggin Treats (Asheville, NC)

Restaurant of the Year: Spiral Diner & Bakery (Fort Worth, TX)

Product of the Year: Nasoya Tangy Blue Vegan Dressing

Cookbook of the Year: *The Joy of Vegan Baking*

Book of the Year: *Committed: A Rabble-Rouser's Memoir*

Blog of the Year: Ecorazzi

Animal-Free Adult Superstore: The Sensual Vegan

"These companies are leaders in the vegetarian industry and continue to develop high-quality products suitable for anyone interested in healthy, compassionate living. We are pleased to honor their accomplishments with a Veggie Award," says VegNews Magazine publisher Joseph Connelly.

The VegNews Veggie Awards recognize excellence in the vegetarian industry. VegNews readers submit their ballots during the month of August, and winners are announced in the holiday edition of the magazine. The annual celebration of the best that veg living has to offer has become the most popular feature in the publication.

The issue hits newsstands November 1 and will be available from the magazine's website, <http://www.vegnews.com>. All Veggie Award winners can be viewed at: http://vegnews.com/veggieawards_2007.html.

VegNews, America's premier vegetarian lifestyle magazine, has a readership of 180,000 and is read in 38 countries. Named the country's "Best Niche Magazine" in 2007 and one of *Chicago Tribune's* "Best 50 Magazines" in 2006, the publication has won numerous awards in its seven-year history. Each issue is filled with the latest in vegetarian news, events, recipes, nutrition information, restaurant and product reviews, celebrity buzz, and even vegetarian weddings. The "Veggie Award" edition is published annually and demonstrates the growth and sophistication of the vegetarian industry. The magazine is headquartered in San Francisco.

Advance copies of the magazine, a complete list of winners, and images are all available to the press.