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Future Food Awards launched to showcase the best of food and drink innovation

Ground-breaking companies which are excelling at the cutting-edge of food and drink innovation are being urged to enter a prestigious food award.

The Future Food Awards has been launched to celebrate pioneering companies that develop new products, discover innovative tastes and flavours, and create food ideas or technology to generate sustainable solutions for the production, transport or preparation of food and drink.

The awards are the brainchild of Holly Shackleton, editor of Speciality Food – the biggest trade magazine in the fine food sector – and Sue Nelson, founder of The FoodTalk Show – a dedicated podcast with worldwide listeners.

The Future Food Awards – the result of a merger of the New Producer Awards and the FoodTalk Awards - comprise nine categories including Young Producer, Drink Innovation, Mission Driven and Technology, and give food and drink businesses ranging from small-scale producers to technology-driven innovators their time in the spotlight.

Amy Moring Co-Founder of Hunter & Gather Foods said: “We were over the moon to win the Speciality Food Awards Newcomer of the Year category last year. This has provided us with additional contacts in the industry off the back of the PR, plus credibility within the start-up community”.

Category winners will pitch to a panel of prestigious judges at Bread & Jam – the UK’s first food founders’ festival - on 3 October this year at the Institute of Directors in London’s Pall Mall. The overall winner will be crowned Supreme Champion of the Future Food Awards.

All finalists will be presented with trophies, promotion in Speciality Food and prime slots on the The FoodTalk Show – as well as access to some of the most revered professionals in the UK's food and drink industry.

Philip Yau Founder of Bonnie Yau's Food said:

“As a small producer with a focus on innovation, receiving such respected recognition from The FoodTalk Awards has been incredibly positive. Winning the free from category has allowed us to raise awareness not only of our Nut Free Thai Satay Sauce, but also the Yau's brand as a whole. It's fantastic to be associated with the awards and it has certainly raised our profile with potential buyers as well as customers. Sales continue to increase and the brand finds new fans every day. The award itself is beautiful and we're so proud to be able to display it as a reminder of all the hard work that goes into creating the products. We hope to maintain our relationship with the Future Food Awards with upcoming new products and we're excited to see where else they can take us!”

Entries to The Future Food Awards 2019 close at midnight on Sunday 30 June 2019. If your business is a taste of what's to come in food and drink, enter for free or find out more at www.futurefoodawards.com.

For all categories, the awards are only open to food or foodtech sector businesses that have been trading for two years - with the exception of the Newcomer and Young Producer award.

The full list of categories – in addition to Newcomer and Young Producer – is:

- **Mission-driven:** a company that is a CIC, social enterprise, charity or has profit for purpose at its heart;
- **Farm-to-fork:** a company that champions or delivers traceable provenance from supply to the end consumer without the addition of unnecessary preservatives or additives;
- **Food Innovation:** a food product that shows real innovation in their category using unusual ingredients or combinations or removing allergens without sacrificing quality or taste;
- **Drink Innovation:** a beverage, soft or alcoholic drink that shows real innovation in their category using unusual ingredients or combinations or removing allergens without sacrificing quality or taste;
- **Food Packaging:** innovative packaging that delivers or protects food or drink products whether for retail, delivery or takeaway;
- **Technology:** smart gadgets, innovative apps or technology that makes cooking, preparing or analysing food easy to understand or use;
- **Impossible to Categorise:** a company innovating in the food sector and making an

important contribution that just doesn't fit into the other award categories.

Ends



Bonnie Yau FoodTalk Awards winner - Thai style peanut free satay sauce



Hunter & Gather Speciality Foods New Producer Awards winner - Avocado oil mayonnaise
Photo credit @Taraliondaris

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Notes for editors:

The Future Food Awards are the brainchild of Holly Shackleton, editor of Speciality Food – the biggest trade magazine in the fine food sector – and Sue Nelson, founder of The FoodTalk Show – a dedicated podcast enjoyed around the world. They have joined forces to merge the New Producer Awards and The FoodTalk Awards in order to offer the industry a pioneering awards scheme to benefit and promote both the companies at the heart of food and drink innovation and the industry at large:

<https://www.specialityfoodmagazine.com/>

<https://foodtalk.co.uk/blog/2019/01/foodtalk-awards-2019>