



May 29, 2019

PRESS RELEASE

Comté Sponsors Fund for *Certified Cheese Professional*® Exam Candidates to Attend American Cheese Society Conference

The Comté Cheese Association, which represents the Comté PDO trade organization (CIGC) in the U.S., is proud to announce the launch of their three-year sponsorship of The Comté Association Conference Fund. Administered by the American Cheese Education (ACE) Foundation, The Comté Association Conference Fund will be open to all applicants who have been accepted to take the *Certified Cheese Professional*® (CCP) exam and seek to attend the American Cheese Society's annual conference. The fund was set up to cover the cost of conference registration and the (ACE) Foundation will base the selection on need. As a long-standing member of the American Cheese Society (ACS), the Comté Cheese Association has made donations to the ACE Foundation in the past to help support CCP initiatives. This is their first multi-year commitment.

"We are delighted that the Comté Cheese Association has generously committed to this three-year sponsorship," said Brian Keyser, ACE Foundation Board President. "This means more cheesemongers can experience all our annual conference has to offer. This will help grow the number of individuals who possess a recognized set of skills and knowledge, as well as contribute to the success of the cheese industry and the greater satisfaction of consumers," expressed Nora Weiser, ACS Executive Director.

In addition, the CIGC will continue its annual Comté Scholarship essay contest for all *Certified Cheese Professionals*® (ACS CCP®s). The winner receives a trip to the Comté region of France and a small stipend.

The CGIC values their long-standing relationship with the ACS and the ACE Foundation and believes this grant will help their efforts to advance cheese education and knowledge in the U.S.

Comité Interprofessionnel de Gestion du Comté (CIGC) represents all those who are involved in the production of Comté—dairy farmers, cheese-makers, affineurs—and carries out activities in all fields of interest to the trade, including research and technical issues, economics, information and communications, marketing, law and promotion of the Comté PDO, defense of local traditions and protection of the environment.

-ends-