

MADE IN NASHVILLE

LOCALLY MADE gift giving ideas



As the holiday season descends, chances are you've already been musing about your gift-giving strategy for quite a while. Should it be something exotic that they'll never use? Something functional but unavoidably boring? There's a happy medium in between that's right beneath your nose, and fittingly, all from the Music City itself. The modern roster of locally made products from Nashville, Tennessee takes impeccable taste to a new level, and proves once again that there's true talent beyond just music in these parts. Check out these local artisans and purveyors to find the perfect gift for everyone from the persnickety relative to the never-fussy friend.

NASHVILLE TOFFEE COMPANY

takes a big slice of pride in handcrafting small batches of their celebrated Chocolate Almond Toffee. Created by combining only butter, sugar, California sweet almonds and premium chocolate, their mouthwatering toffee is available in milk or dark chocolate and in sizes from 1.7 oz. foil bags to 3 lb. gift wrapped packages complete with tin, box, and bows. Can't decide? Give a Combination Gift Tin, which includes 1 lb. each of Nashville Toffee Company's signature milk and dark chocolate almond toffees, frequently rumored to light up eyes as it's unwrapped.

NASHVILLE JAM COMPANY

is a small batch specialty food company whose owners, Cortney and Gary, produce and package each individual jar of all-natural jam and jelly. The two got started with just a small garden growing heirloom tomatoes and peppers, then began giving away their jellies and jams as gifts to great response. Now, jelly and jam lovers can purchase varieties like Strawberry Jalapeno Jam, spicy Six Pepper Jelly, savory Smokey Tomato Jam, Sweet Onion & Garlic Jelly, Peach Brandy Jam and Apple Bourbon Jam, among many others, each a wonderful treat that's both useful in a multitude of ways and undeniably tasty. They also feature farmstand salsa, sauces and ketchup.

OLIVE & SINCLAIR CHOCOLATE COMPANY

is Nashville's premier bean-to-bar chocolate maker, slow-roasting and stone-grinding small batches of unfathomably delicious chocolate creations. Beans are derived from a single source, then combined with pure brown sugar to make their signature Southern Artisan Chocolate™ flavor. Olive & Sinclair has coined theirs the "new" old-fashioned chocolate due in part to their unique techniques that combine European methods with classic Southern tradition. Renowned by magazines such as *bon appétit*, *Food & Wine*, *Food Network Magazine*, *People* and *Southern Living*, Olive & Sinclair offers exquisite options for gift-giving like the Olive & Sinclair Letterpress 4 Pack, which features flavors from Mexican Style Cinnamon Chili to Buttermilk White Salt & Pepper. For a bit more, select the Gift Box 8 Pack, which adds

items like the 67% Chocolate Bar and Sea Salt Chocolate Bar, all presented in a snazzy old-fashioned letterpress style box.

LEON'S CANDY COMPANY

is a fourth-generation, family run company whose candies are handmade on the premises with top-notch ingredients. Leon's confections have been featured on the *Food Network*, the *Travel Channel*, twice in *Southern Living Magazine* and in many local Nashville publications. 8 varieties of Pralines and 10 other handmade confections are still made by Leon and his wife Myrna daily, even after 17 years in business, and they're all preservative- and gluten-free (with the exception of pralines with alcohol). Pick up a Sampler Tin to give, ideal for any candy lover. Choose from over 23 handcrafted varieties of candy to fill it with, making it one of the most personalized gifts you can give. Consider Leon's Black and White Caramels for a classic touch, or go with a Caramel Pecan Roll made with fresh pecans and creamy vanilla caramel rolled together and sliced for a slightly more wholesome take on a supremely decadent treat.

COLT'S CHOCOLATES & COMFORT DESSERTS

wasn't what owner Mackenzie Colt had in mind when she was mid-music career opening for Buck Owens and appearing on *Hee Haw* as a regular. But her renowned talent for fashioning fabulous chocolates and desserts grew her once-tiny business into a major player at a rapid pace, with international gourmet distributors and celebrities vying for her premium products. Consider Colt's Bolts, a euphoric confection of pure premium chocolate, custom blended peanut butter and fresh, daily-roasted whole roasted almonds, available in milk or dark chocolate. They're the original chocolate made by Mackenzie back in 1984 when Colt's Chocolates was in its infancy, and today stand as winner of the SOFI Award at the International Fancy Food Show. Decadence and wholesomeness come together in this gift, one any chocolate and nut lover would be pleased to receive. For a bit of everything, give The Colt's Chocolate Ultimate Gift Collection, a posh assortment of Colt's most popular items including more Nashville-made confections like *Truffle Babies*, *Marie McGhee's Bumble Bees* and more, including a mix of Colt's Bolts, too, of course.

CHRISTIE COOKIES

can help you wish someone special a Music City Merry Christmas in the sweetest way possible with cookies voted Best Cookie in the South by *Southern Living Magazine*. They create cookies baked fresh to order using only real butter and great ingredients with absolutely no preservatives, and the integrity of each batch is maintained thanks to the staff's dedication to uncompromising quality, discipline, fresh ingredients, and of course, a good dose of humble Southern pride. The Christie Cookie famously dubbed as the

Doubletree is a classic known well by travelers familiar with the Hilton Hotels favorite. Made with walnuts and chocolate chips, it's a warm hug any time of year, but especially so during holiday season. The Broadway Red Satin tin, chock full of 18 cookies including creations such as the Christie original chocolate chip, oatmeal raisin and white chocolate macadamia nut, is another crowd-pleaser. Packaged in a shining red tin and shimmering silver lid as well as a cloth cookie bag affixed with a "With Cheer & Good Tidings From Nashville," gift tag, it's the quintessential local treat to bestow

TRUBEE HONEY

knows well that while the city is abuzz with the holiday spirit, it's not the only thing buzzing. TruBee has built a reputation as a top-tier purveyor of specialty raw, unpasteurized honeys, capturing the essence of regions, seasons and a unique snapshot of time. Bees forage in different areas and feast on what they fancy, from swamp magnolia and spring maple to tulips and red tips, sometimes traveling up to three miles from their home hive. It's this that adds the unique flavor to each vintage of honey TruBee produces, and nothing says natural Nashville like a gift from TruBee's terrific inventory. Current vintages include Tennessee Spring, one that varies with the bees' taste for fruit trees, blackberry and blueberry; *Wildflower Summer*, a clover, thistle, dandelion and privet nectar, and magnolia pollen-based bold flavor; *Coastal Spring*, made from the gallberry bush; and *Tennessee Snow Whipped Honey*, a creamed honey variety that makes an amazing complement to cinnamon rolls, toast, tea and more.

It's long been said that food is the way to the heart, and there's a bit of common sense hidden within that adage. Giving the wares of local Nashville artisans as gifts to friends and loved ones this holiday season serves a dual and endearing purpose. Each time a chocolate is savored, a cookie or toffee tasted, or a cup of tea made with real, raw honey is cradled warm between hands, they'll know care and thought came with it. But the best part? Nashville gifts are a shared experience, spreading the sense of pride in what this thriving, star of a city can do.



Locally Made