

**MEDIA CONTACT:**  
Ross Marzolf  
206.399.1785 - cell  
425.918.1900 x 108 - office  
ross@garlicjims.com

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--Photography available--

**GARLIC JIM'S FAMOUS GOURMET PIZZA ANNOUNCES THE WINNERS  
OF THE TWELFTH ANNUAL NATIONAL PIZZA PARTY DAY GIVEAWAY**

**EVERETT, WA (May 30, 2017)** – In recognition of the important role that teachers play in our communities and to celebrate **National Pizza Party Day**, May 19, 2017, **Garlic Jim's Famous Gourmet Pizza** is proud to announce the winner of a pizza party as nominated by its Colorado customers.

For the six weeks leading up to Friday, May 19, customers were able to nominate their favorite teacher and write a short paragraph on why they should receive a pizza party from Garlic Jim's.

The winning teacher was chosen by the Garlic Jim's Marketing Dept. based on the quality of the essay nominating them. The contest closed on May 15, with winners being notified by May 17 and pizza parties being awarded on National Pizza Party Day, May 19 or any other day before the end of the current school year.

The Colorado winner this year was Melissa Carter from Carrie Martin Elementary. She was nominated by Debbie Groover who wrote, *"Mrs. Carter is a teacher of special needs children. She is AMAZING... Under her leadership, the students make progress that even their parents sometimes don't think they will make... She has written grants and done fundraising to provide standing desks and other "fidget" items for the students... She is a special person and very special teacher."*

"We're excited to celebrate our 12th Annual National Pizza Party Day and to honor the teachers in our Garlic Jim's communities," says Dwayne Northrop, president and CEO of Garlic Jim's. "2006 was the kick-off year for National Pizza Party Day and it's grown in popularity every year. This year we received so many excellent nominations from parents and families that it was difficult to choose a winner."

Commencing yearly on the third Friday of May, National Pizza Party Day marks the end of many sport seasons and the school year, and signifies the beginning days of summer. As the school year winds down, it's appropriate that teachers and students should celebrate National Pizza Party Day with the perfect food – pizza!

**ABOUT GARLIC JIM'S**

In the \$40 billion dollar-a-year, highly competitive U.S. pizza industry, Garlic Jim's Famous Gourmet Pizza is proud to be the first pizza franchise to focus on quick delivery pizza made fresh with gourmet toppings. Garlic Jim's in-store system and team member training allows them to make pizza in 15 minutes or less "from order to out the door," thus pioneering the concept "Gourmet, Right Away." Garlic Jim's new focus allows for made-to-order Neapolitan individual pizzas in only five minutes.

At Garlic Jim's the term 'gourmet' signifies more than just the finished pizza – it refers to the finest ingredients: fresh packed sauces, fresh whole-milk mozzarella and fresh dough made daily, where the customer can certainly taste the difference. Garlic Jim's offers customers three crust choices; hand-thrown thick, made with parmesan cheese and buttermilk, garlic thin and gluten-free; four cheese options: whole-milk mozzarella, cheddar, feta and grated parmesan; seven sauces: classic red, garlic basil, basil pesto, zesty chipotle pesto, creamy ranch, smokin' sweet BBQ or olive oil, and

a variety of meats, vegetables and gourmet toppings such as roasted garlic, artichoke hearts, roasted corn and sun-dried tomatoes.

With gourmet pizzas such as Nutty Chipotle™, zesty chipotle pesto topped with spicy sausage, pepperoni, red onions, tomatoes and cashews, Jim's Gourmet Garlic™, basil pesto sauce, artichoke hearts, roasted garlic, sun-dried tomatoes and feta cheese, and Chicken Bacon Ranch, grilled chicken, bacon, cheddar cheese, tomatoes, red onions and creamy ranch sauce, Garlic Jim's is putting a new spin on pizza. "We've gone out of our way to source the best ingredients available to create our specialty pizzas and as a result we also have the best tasting pepperoni pizza you will ever find," says Northrop.

**Garlic Jim's** currently has locations in Colorado, Oregon, Washington and Texas. For more information on **Garlic Jim's** pizza and franchising, visit their website at [www.garlicjims.com](http://www.garlicjims.com), or call 425.948.7603.



*Pictured: Nominator Debby Groover with winning teacher Melissa Carter*

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