

Chocolate Pizza Company Highlights

- 32-year-old CEO; started as a dishwasher at age 15; owner at age 21
- Since 2010, grew from small-town chocolate shop to emerging national brand
- Makes over 150 gourmet chocolate products for business or personal gift-giving
- Business of the Year (2016), "40 Under Forty", SU's Whitman Alumnus of the Year
- Online orders from 6 continents at company's website, ChocolatePizza.com
- Central New York's largest gourmet chocolate manufacturer
- Quadrupled sales in past 5 years built a new 13,000 sf facility
- Chocolate Pizza® and Peanut Butter Wings® are trademarked specialties
- Family-owned small business that's proud to say, made in America

Chocolate Pizza Company Fun Facts

If you laid all the Chocolate Pizzas the company makes in a year end-to-end, they would span the Grand Canyon.

Chocolate Pizza Company makes enough Peanut Butter Wings each year to reach the cruising altitude of a Jumbo jet.

The largest single order from one customer was 31,000 Chocolate Pizzas.

MEET THE OWNER:



Ryan Novak ('11) is the owner of, Chocolate Pizza Company, Inc., now Central New York's largest chocolate maker. He holds a B.S. in Entrepreneurship and Emerging Enterprises from Syracuse University's Whitman School of Management where he was awarded Alumnus of the Year in



2018. Novak is a frequent guest speaker in Whitman's entrepreneurship program and Veterans Employment Boot Camp. A nationally ranked place kicker in high school, he was a member of the Syracuse Orange football team (#38) under Greg Robinson. Novak started with Chocolate Pizza Company as a dishwasher at the age of 15. In 2010, he was a 21-year-old college senior when he bought what was then a small-town chocolate shop. Today, Chocolate Pizza Company's gourmet

gifts and treats have been ordered by chocolate lovers on 6 continents, enjoyed by A-List celebrities, Hall of Fame athletes, rock and roll legends and sold by some of the nation's biggest retailers. The company built a 10,000 square foot production facility in 2015 just outside Novak's hometown of Marcellus, New York and expanded the building in 2020 to keep pace with soaring demand. Chocolate Pizza Company earned Centerstate CEO's "Business of the Year" honors for companies under 50 employees and the Business Journal presented Novak with a "40 Under Forty" award as one of the area's rising young professionals. Novak has been featured in Forbes, People and Entrepreneur magazines as well as on Food Network, Discovery, CNBC, Hallmark Channel and more. Active in his community, Chocolate Pizza Company sponsors a local youth baseball team, annual leadership awards for his high school's varsity football team and numerous charitable causes. He enjoys running, history and travel. His wife, Christie Novak, DBA, CPA, is a Whitman graduate (BS '10, MSA, '11), and did her doctoral work at the University of Florida (DBA, '19). She teaches accounting at both Syracuse University and Lemoyne College where she is chair of the accounting department. The couple resides in Marcellus, NY.





















