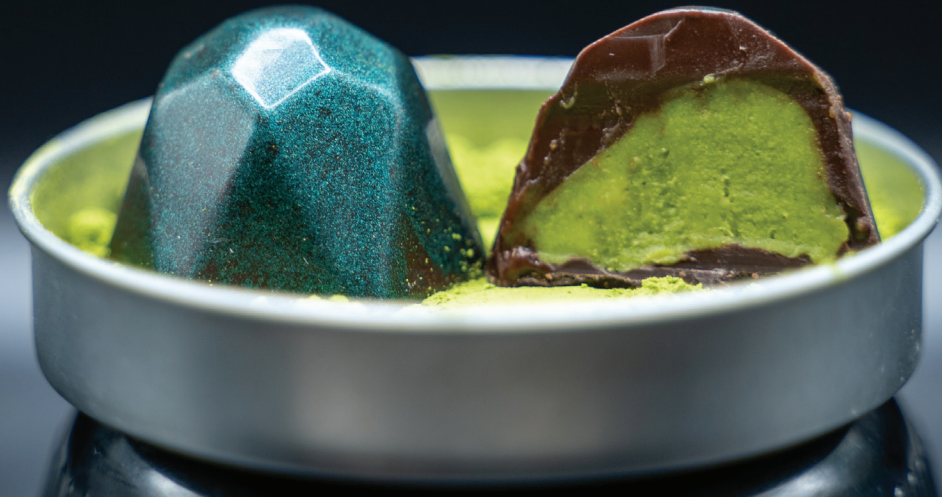


'WE WANT TO CHANGE THE WORLD'



GIFTS FROM THE COAST

ABOVE: A dark chocolate matcha chocolate created by Genesis Chocolates. **BELOW:** Astoria's Genesis Chocolates offers a holiday box that includes bourbon butterscotch, pumpkin creme brulee, raspberry liqueur and dark chocolate peppermint truffles.



Astoria business focuses on fair trade treats

BY PETER KORCHNAK

Astoria is now a chocolate town, too. New local company Genesis Chocolates makes handmade artisan truffles with bold flavors.

The company borrows its name from the chocolatier, Genesis Cordova, who launched the business last summer with her partner, Lachlan Sforcina. Cordova worked at a major independent chocolate company for several years.

"I've always liked baking and never thought of myself as being super into chocolate," said Cordova. "But I fell in love with it. I fell in love with the creative aspect of it, I fell in love with the challenge."

The duo met while taking pandemic road

trips across the U.S. and have been inseparable since.

Last Christmas at a family gathering in Bend, Cordova made holiday truffles that reminded Sforcina of the chocolate he grew up with in Brisbane, Queensland.

"It was the best chocolate I ever had," said Sforcina. Then his entrepreneurial spirit kicked in, and he said, "Let's make chocolate!"

"It was one of those funny moments in your life," said Cordova, "when you realize your true potential."

After a stint in Portland and a search for a home up and down the coast, the duo finally landed in Astoria in August and set out to pursue their dream.

'IT CAN BE HEALTHY BUT IT CAN ALSO BE FUN AND MAYBE A LITTLE NAUGHTY!'

Genesis Cordova,
co-founder of Genesis
Chocolates

See Page 7



Peter Korchnak

Lachlan Sforcina and Genesis Cordova display a batch of fresh chocolate truffles.