
Our Story

For more than a century, Philips Candy has been woven into the fabric of New York memories.

The story began in 1916 in the heart of Coney Island, where Philips Candy became a beloved destination along Surf Avenue. Generations of families stopped in for handcrafted chocolates, famous jelly apples, fresh popcorn, candy apples, and sweet treats that became part of summer traditions for countless New Yorkers. Through decades of change including world wars, economic hardships, and even global pandemics Philips Candy remained a symbol of nostalgia, craftsmanship, and family tradition.

In 1947, a young John Dorman began working behind the counter at Philips Candy at just 17 years old. Over the next seven decades, John dedicated his life to preserving the magic and quality that made Philips Candy legendary. To so many people, Philips wasn't just a candy shop — it was a place where childhood memories were created and passed down from generation to generation.

When Philips Candy was forced to leave its historic Coney Island home after nearly a century, the tradition found new life in Staten Island. Since opening at 8 Barrett Avenue in 2002, the shop has continued serving families with the same recipes, techniques, and heartfelt dedication that made the original location so special.

2026, a new chapter begins.

For Lou Alfano, continuing the Philips Candy tradition is deeply personal. His late mother grew up in Coney Island and often shared stories of visiting Philips Candy as a child and being served by a young John Dorman. Years later, she brought Louis' daughter Madison to the Staten Island shop, where new memories were created at the same counter that had already touched generations before them.

After Madison's passing, those memories became even more meaningful.

Now, with tremendous pride and respect for the history of the brand, Lou Alfano is honored to carry Philips Candy into the future while preserving the traditions that customers have loved for over 110 years. The same talented team that worked alongside John for decades continues crafting the treats that have made Philips Candy a New York institution.

This is more than a candy store. It's legacy. It's family. It's home.

To honor that legacy and give back to the community that has supported Philips Candy for generations, 10% of all profits will be donated to The Madison Rochelle Alfano Foundation, helping fund free safe-driving education programs for Staten Island youth and families.

As we begin this new chapter, our mission remains simple: preserve the tradition, honor the memories, and continue bringing joy to every customer who walks through our doors.

“Same Tradition. New Chapter.”