



Benefitting Lauren's Hope Pregnancy Care Center,
a 501c3 public non-profit.

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Gingerbread Decorator Competition Guidelines

Awards: **Best Entry in each group** to be awarded before Festival opening. Entries will be judged on sturdiness Overall Appearance, Originality and Creativity, Consistency of Theme and Stability.

Best in Show to be awarded on Saturday, November 21, 2026, at 4PM by a public choice vote.

- Group 1 – Youth, 17 and under. Construction can be of baked or a purchased gingerbread house kit.
- Group 2 – Adult/Family. Must be constructed of baked gingerbread.
- Group 3 – Community Partner. Constructed of graham crackers.

Official Rules and Guidelines:

All decorators must complete the Gingerbread Decorator Application. A fee of \$10 will be required once your application has been accepted. We are limited in space and can only accept 14 entries per group. Applications will be accepted on a first come first served basis and will be accepted through Thursday, October 1, 2026, or until all slots are filled. Emails will be sent out to all applicants to advise if your application was accepted. Once your application is accepted you need to pay the \$10 application fee within 24 hours, or I will forfeit my application.

Entries must be constructed in 2026.

Design, bake and decorate a gingerbread creation. All artwork must have a roof and walls. a (no buttercream, fondants, or printed icing).

Entries must be original - gingerbread kits only allowed for Group 1. Entire display except for base must be made of edible materials. Base is to be made of wood or thick cardboard and must be no larger than 14"x14". The gingerbread house can be any size in height.

Entries must be constructed of mostly gingerbread or graham crackers and icing, unwrapped candy, cookies, crackers, cereals, pasta, and any other food items. Entries may use lollipops without paper or plastic stems. Non-perishable food items may not be used. Bring your entry to: The Topsail Island Moose Lodge 2061, 13175 NC HWY 50, Hampstead, NC 28443 on Thursday, November 19, 2026, from 12-6PM. Please sign in upon your arrival and a volunteer will accept your entry, and tag it for display.

Entries will be on display at the Topsail Island Moose Lodge 2061 Friday, November 20, 2026, from 5-8PM and Saturday, November 21, 2026, from 10AM-5PM. Please pick up your entry between 5-8PM on November 21. Entries not picked up by 8:00PM will be discarded.

Festival committee reserves the right to decline acceptance of any items that may not be appropriate for a family holiday festival.



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Gingerbread Decorator Application

Email to info@christmasinpenderonslow.org or register online www.christmasinpenderonslow.org

Group: (Choose one): ☐ Group 1-Youth ☐ Group2-Adult/Family ☐ Group 3-Community Partner

Contact Name: please print

Decorator Name: please print

Parent Guardian: (for under 18) please print

Contact Email:

Contact Phone:

Street Address:

City:

State:

Zip Code:

Decorator Age:

Entry Name:

Entry Description:

☐ I understand that by submitting my application that I understand the rules as stated in the Gingerbread Decorator Competition Guidelines and hereby agree to all the rules.

☐ I understand that once my application has been accepted, I need to pay a \$10 application fee within 24 hours, or I will forfeit my application.

Lauren's Hope is a 501c3 public nonprofit organization. Christmas in Pender-Onslow Festival of Trees and Lauren's Hope are not responsible for any entries that may be damaged or lost. They reserve the right to use any pictures or likeness for promotional use.

Decorator Signature:

Parent Guardian Signature: