

Presents

The Great American Gingerbread House Competition & Trail

RULES AND PROCEDURES

Rules and procedures have changed significantly from prior years, please read all information carefully and retain these sheets for your records. This year will be wildly different as we create a new tradition in Savannah - distributing edible creations and cheer across the "Hostess City" during a much needed holiday season. The following rules and procedures have been set forth and established by The Savannah Harbor Foundation to create The Great American Gingerbread House Competition & Trail in good faith.

For additional questions, please contact David Moses by emailing david@savannahharborfoundation.org, or calling 912-220-6875

ENTRY FORMS

If you are interested in participating, please register online at www.savannahgingerbread.com. You can also mail your form to the address below:

Savannah Harbor Foundation
Attn: Gingerbread Competition
PO Box 11126
Savannah, GA 31412

To be eligible for the competition, a completed Entry Form must be received no later than 5pm on Friday, December 4, 2021. You are encouraged to submit your entry form early and before the deadline to ensure participation.

2021 CATEGORIES

- Official Competition - High-level competitors, any age
- Build-Local - Meant for non-profits and businesses on behalf of non-profits
- Youth, Group & Family Fun - Youth groups, classrooms, families and children
 - Prizes May Be Awarded For Best In Age Group At The Events Discretion

Entry Form Deadline
Friday, December 4, 2021

Gingerbread Delivery Days
December 10-11, 2021

All Divisions Deliver to
TBD

2021 Gingerbread Competition Awards Ceremony
Saturday, December 11th at 5:30pm

Royal Gingerbread Ball
Saturday, December 11th at 7pm

Gingerbread Display - Public Viewing
December 13th – Saturday, December 25

Hours depend on host venue
Map available at savannahgingerbread.com

GOALS

This is an entirely new concept is designed to 1) provide competitors a place to proudly display their creations, 2) drive responsible traffic to downtown businesses and spread holiday cheer 3) raise funds and awareness for area charities through house hosts.

CONCEPT

- 1) Competitors join us in Savannah to deposit their houses and win initial prize money
- 2) Businesses make donations to host houses over the course of the holiday season
- 3) Competitors win additional cash and prizes based on votes from the public

DESIGN

Competitors are welcome and encouraged to uniquely design their entry for the 2021 competition, as long as their entry is holiday related and in keeping with the competition rules and judging criteria. We reserve the right to refuse any entry deemed inappropriate.

JUDGING AND CRITERIA

Initial Judging will take place Saturday, December 11, 2021. Judges will be evaluating entries based on the following criteria:

- 1) Overall Appearance & Appeal
- 2) Originality & Creativity
- 3) Difficulty
- 4) Precision and Neatness
- 5) Consistency of theme (Theme should be competitor's own and consistent throughout the entry. There is no overall theme for the competition.)

All rulings by the judges are independent and final. They are in no way influenced by the Savannah Harbor Foundation. In the event of a tie, the competition Call Judge will be asked to break the tie.

MATERIALS AND CONSTRUCTION GUIDELINES

BASE

Entry must be constructed on a board base. We suggest using $\frac{1}{2}$ " or $\frac{3}{4}$ " plywood. Use of pegs or risers on the bottom of the base is preferred but not required.

If you wish to install "legs" on the underside of your base, the legs are considered as part of the base and should not cause the entry's height to exceed 24 inches.

SIZE LIMITATIONS

Due to limited space, we are not able to accept entries that do not adhere to these requirements:

- Base size must not exceed 24'x24'

- Overall height must not exceed 24”

USE ONLY APPROVED MATERIALS

- Everything above the base of your entry must be constructed and composed completely of edible materials.
- The main structure of your entry must be constructed of at least 75% gingerbread, some of which should be exposed.
- Edible materials are not limited to candies and icings. Use of gum paste, fondant, pastillage, chocolate, modeling chocolate, royal icing, isomalt, cast sugar, gelatin and pressed sugar is encouraged.
- No artificial display materials, such as Styrofoam or interior lighting, are to be used in the construction or decoration of the entry.
- Candies must be unwrapped and free of any non-edible materials, for example: lollipop sticks.
- Non-edible materials such as paint and/or ribbon are approved (and encouraged) only to decorate the outer edge of your plywood base.
- We cannot accept structures made with egg or butter icings as they quickly turn rancid and soften causing the structure to disintegrate. We recommend only using Royal Icing.

DELIVERY DATES

Individual participants and teams are responsible for delivering their Gingerbread creations to Savannah, but encouraged to stay the week to experience Savannah's holiday atmosphere.

Friday, December 10 from 10AM – 6PM

Saturday, December 11 from 9AM – 11AM

DISPLAY

The Gingerbread exhibit will be on display throughout Savannah December 13 – December 25th. We reserve the right to remove homes prior to December 25th as needed due to deterioration, but will alert to provide competitors the opportunity to pick up.

Every effort will be made to display all entries to their best advantage; however due to limitations of our display areas, detailed interiors or backs of houses may not be visible during display.

All entries will be placed to best fit display areas, therefore, we cannot guarantee groups of houses will be displayed together.

We reserve the right to refuse any entry deemed inappropriate.

AWARDS CEREMONY & PRIZES

The 2021 Gingerbread Competition Judging Awards Ceremony will be held Saturday, December 11th. The Savannah Harbor Foundation will also award additional prizes based on votes from visitors.

OFFICIAL COMPETITION

Official Gingerbread Competition is meant for serious competitors who plan to bring their A-Game to win top dollars and recognition. Total Competition Purse Determined by Total Donations.

- 1st Place Great American Gingerbread Award, Determined by Judges with cash prize.
- 2nd & 3rd Place Will Also Be Determined by Judges with cash prizes
- People's Choice Award Determined by Votes: \$1000
- Notable Builder Awards, Determined by Competition Purse, Judges & Organizers
 - Prizes will range from gift baskets to cash
 - Categories range from Creativity, Original Concept, Difficulty, and others

BUILD LOCAL

Meant for non-profits, businesses, hotels, restaurants, shops and other businesses to build and showcase festive houses in their business. Deliver houses to the Judging at The Desoto Hotel then bring them back to your place of business for display. \$20 registration donation

- \$500 Prize to the winner's charity of choice!

YOUTH, GROUP & FAMILY FUN

Meant for young competitors, amateurs, families or school groups to have fun while working together on their edible designs.

- 1st Place: \$250
- 2nd Place: \$100
- 3rd Place: \$50
- Additional prizes may be bestowed based on age of entrants and quality of pieces

Prize checks will be sent to the individual winner or team captain after the competition and will be mailed to the address that is provided on the entry form. Winners of cash prizes will be required to fill out the appropriate tax forms in order for a prize check to be issued.

ALL NEW THIS YEAR: THE ROYAL GINGERBREAD BALL & AWARDS GALA

You are cordially invited for a Royal Affair as we celebrate all our competitors and announce winners from the competition. Ticket includes access to the event, light hors d'oeuvres and desserts, cash bar available. Children are most welcome to gaze upon the magnificent Gingerbread creations and meet a variety of Royal dignitaries

ENTRY PICK-UP

Competitors that wish to keep their gingerbread structures after the competition display ends must notify David@savannahharborfoundation.org. Entries not identified as top 20 winners and not picked up from the host venue by Sunday, December 12th will be discarded.

The Great American Gingerbread House Competition Entry Form

If you are interested in participating, please register online at Savannahgingerbread.com, You can mail your form by December 4th to the address below:

Savannah Harbor Foundation
Attn: Gingerbread Competition
PO Box 11126
Savannah, GA 31412

Name of Individual Participant or Team Captain:

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email Address: _____

Team Name if applicable: _____

Please check the category your entry will be competing in:

- Official Competition
 Youth, Group & Family Fun
 Build Local

I understand that in order to be eligible for the competition I must agree to the following as indicated by my signature below:

- All entry forms must be received by December 4, 2021.
- I am responsible for delivering my completed entry during the designated drop off hours:

Friday, December 10 between 10AM and 6PM

Saturday, December 11 between 9AM and 11AM

- I must follow all the Rules and Procedures set forth by The Savannah Harbor Foundation.
- I hereby grant permission to The Savannah Harbor Foundation to publish images of my entry for marketing purposes.
- The Savannah Harbor Foundation and host venues at no time guarantees the safety or security of the entry and cannot be held responsible for any damages incurred by my entry on or off the venues' property.
- Savannah Harbor Foundation reserves the right to refuse any entries that are deemed inappropriate for display at the hotel, to disqualify any competitor who falsifies any information which is submitted on this entry form.

Signature of Entrant: _____ Date: _____