



## **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](mailto:david@savannahharborfoundation.org), or calling 912-220-6875

## **ENTRY FORMS**

If you are interested in participating, please register online at [www.savannahgingerbread.com](http://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 - Age 18+ Competitors
- Build-Local - Meant for non-profits and businesses on behalf of non-profits
- Youth, Group & Family Fun - Youth groups, classrooms, families and children

**Entry Form Deadline**  
Friday, December 4, 2021

**Gingerbread Delivery Days**  
December 12-13, 2021

**All Divisions Deliver to TBD**

**2021 Gingerbread Competition Awards Ceremony**  
Monday, December 13th at 5:00pm

**Royal Gingerbread Ball**  
Monday, December 13th at 7:30pm

**Top 20 Gingerbread Display - Public Viewing**  
December 14th – Saturday, December 25

Hours depend on host venue  
Map available at [savannahgingerbread.com](http://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 entry hosts.

## **CONCEPT**

- 1) Competitors join us in Savannah to deposit their entries and win prize money
- 2) Businesses make donations to host entries 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 Monday, December 13, 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 solid 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 must be exposed. The more gingerbread exposed, the higher the score.
- 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 **assembled with butter icings** as they quickly turn rancid and soften causing the structure to disintegrate.

### **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.

Sunday, December 12 from 12PM – 6PM

Monday, December 13 from 9AM – 11AM

### **DISPLAY**

The Top 20 Gingerbread Entries will be on display throughout Savannah December 14 – December 25th. We reserve the right to remove Entries 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 Entries 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 Awards will be held Monday, December 13th. The Savannah Harbor Foundation will also award prizes based on additional criteria.

## **OFFICIAL COMPETITION**

Official Gingerbread Competition is meant for serious competitors who plan to bring their

A-Game to win top dollars and recognition - Determined by Judges

- 1st Place Great American Gingerbread Award: \$3,000 Cash Prize & Gold Medal
- 2nd Place \$1,500 Cash Prize & Silver Medal
- 3rd Place \$500 Cash Prize & Bronze Medal
- People's Choice Award Determined by Votes

## **BUILD LOCAL**

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

- Cash 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: Ribbon & \$300
- 2nd Place: Ribbon & Prize
- 3rd Place: Ribbon & Prize
- Additional prizes may be bestowed based on age of entrants and quality of pieces

## **AWARDS RECEPTION**

Award reception will commence at 5:00pm at the Desoto Hotel in the ballroom.

## **ALL NEW THIS YEAR: THE ROYAL GINGERBREAD BALL**

You are cordially invited for a Royal Affair as we celebrate all our competitors. Ticket includes access to the event, desserts, cocoa bar, special surprises and cash bar available. Children are most welcome to gaze upon the magnificent Gingerbread creations and meet a variety of Royal and holiday dignitaries (IE Santa & Princesses). Tickets will go on sale October 15, 2021.

Crowning of the Prince & Princess of the Ball Randomly Selected. Best Dressed Couple!

**Tickets Available** at: [tickets.savannahevents.org/e/americangingerbread](https://tickets.savannahevents.org/e/americangingerbread)

## **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 Tuesday, December 14th at 11:00am will be discarded.

## The Great American Gingerbread House Competition Entry Form

If you are interested in participating, please register online at [Savannahgingerbread.com](http://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 (18+)  
 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:

Sunday, December 12 between 12PM and 6PM

Monday, December 13 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: \_\_\_\_\_