

# THE 2015 NATIONAL GINGERBREAD HOUSE COMPETITION™

Entry Forms Due: Friday, November 6th, 2015

Competition Date: Monday, November 16th, 2015

Display Dates: Wednesday, November 18th-Sunday, January 3, 2016

## RULES AND PROCEDURES

The following rules and procedures have been set forth and established by The Omni Grove Park Inn Special Events Department (henceforth referred to as OGPI) for the purpose of the 2015 National Gingerbread House Competition™. Please read the rules and procedure carefully and retain these sheets for your records. For additional questions, please contact the Special Events Department at (800) 438-0050, Extension 8045.

## ENTERING & QUALIFYING:

To be eligible for the competition, a signed and completed entry form, description and/or photos must be received by fax, email, or mail prior to 5 p.m. on Friday, November 6th, 2015. Entries that are not pre-registered will not be accepted. Entry numbers will be assigned upon receipt of completed entry forms by OGPI. Competitors will receive a letter or email with entry number confirming their entry into the 2015 competition. One (1) entry per entry form is permitted and each participant may only submit one entry. The 2015 National Gingerbread House Competition™ entry form must be signed by the individual entering the competition. If the individual is younger than the age of eighteen (18) by the date of the competition, a signature from a parent or legal guardian is required in addition to the minor's signature and date of birth.

Team Entries are allowed for entry under the following guidelines:

- Please complete one (1) entry form for the team that includes only the team captain's contact information. In the case of school groups entering the competition, the classroom teacher should be listed as the team captain and provide his or her contact information.
- A separate typed list of each team member's first and last names, along with ages, should be included with the team's entry form.
- A signature from a parent or legal guardian will still be required for each team member under eighteen (18) years of age.
- In the event a team entry wins a prize, the team captain will be the recipient of any prizes. Distribution or splitting of any prize or ribbon will be left to the team captain to determine.
- If individuals working on a single entry are of different ages and would be in different categories independently, the team should enter the appropriate category for the oldest individual in the group.
- Individuals eighteen (18) years of age but still enrolled in high school may compete in the Teen Category as a member of a team entry.

Due to space, only a limited number of entries will be accepted into the competition. You are encouraged to submit your entry form early and before the deadline to ensure entry into the competition. The OGPI Special Events Department reserves the right to refuse any entry deemed inappropriate.

## CANCELLATION POLICY

OGPI understands that situations may cause competitors to withdraw from the competition. In the event you are no longer able to compete, please inform The Special Events Department at (800) 438-0050, Extension 8045 or email Special Events Manager, Jennifer Wagner at [jennifer.wagner@omnihotels.com](mailto:jennifer.wagner@omnihotels.com).

## ENTRY CATEGORIES

The following categories are open for entry into the 2015 National Gingerbread House Competition™

- Adult Category - Individuals eighteen years of age and older entering as a single entrant or team.
- Teen Category - Individuals between thirteen and seventeen years of age entering as a single entrant or team.
- Youth Category - Individuals between nine and twelve years of age entering as a single entrant or team.
- Child Category - Individuals between five and eight years of age entering as a single entrant or team.

## PLACING and PRIZES

OGPI will award one adult entry from the competition the title of Grand Prize.

- Grand Prize Adult Winner: \$5,000 prize check, a two-night Club Floor stay at OGPI, a dinner for two, daily breakfast for two, a Prize Package from Chef Nicholas Lodge including a two-day class at the Nicholas Lodge School in Atlanta, GA, and a ribbon.
- Adult Category - 2nd Place: \$2,500 prize check, a two-night Mountain View stay at OGPI including daily breakfast for two, a dinner for two, two Spa Day Passes, and a ribbon.
- Adult Category - 3rd Place: \$1200 prize check, a one-night Mountain View stay at OGPI including breakfast and dinner for two, and a ribbon.
- Teen Category - 1st Place: \$ 750 Prize check, dinner for four at Edison, and a ribbon.
- Teen Category - 2nd Place: \$500 prize check and a ribbon.
- Teen Category - 3rd Place: \$250 prize check and a ribbon.
- Youth Category - 1st Place: \$300 prize check, dinner for four at Edison and a ribbon.
- Youth Category - 2nd Place: \$200 prize check and a ribbon.
- Youth Category - 3rd Place: \$100 prize check and a ribbon.
- Child Category - 1st Place: \$100 prize check, dinner for four at Edison, and a ribbon.
- Child Category - 2nd Place: \$75 prize check and a ribbon.
- Child Category - 3rd Place: \$50 prize check and a ribbon

The award for the competitor who traveled the Furthest Distance with their entry is \$1000. (Based on mileage within continental United States; must provide proof with valid drivers license)

OGPI will also award the following winners with a ribbon:

- Top Ten Winners in the Adult Category.
- Top Ten Winners in the Teen Category.
- Top Ten Winners in the Youth Category.
- Top Ten Winners in the Child Category.

Prize checks will be sent to the winners 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.

## DESIGN:

Although OGPI's holiday competition is titled 'The National Gingerbread 'House' Competition', entries are not limited to the structure of a house. Competitors are welcome and encouraged to uniquely design their entry for the 2015 competition, as long as the entry is in keeping with the competition Rules and Procedures and the five (5) judging criteria.

## SIZE LIMITATIONS, IDENTIFICATION, and DESCRIPTION:

Not to exceed 24 inches high, 24 inches wide, and 24 inches long. Entry must be placed on a board base. We suggest using ½" or ¾" plywood as a base for your entry. Entries combined with a base must not be larger than 24 inches high, 24 inches wide, and 24 inches long. 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. Write your name, address, and entry number on the underside of your base. Include with your entry form a typed description of your entry that lists features about your gingerbread 'house' and materials used in the construction process. Up to three photos of your process may be included but are not required. **You may also bring the description and/or process photos with you to be left with the Special Events Team upon Check-In.** The top of your description sheet should have the name of your gingerbread entry and your entry number. **Please DO NOT include your name in the name of your gingerbread entry or anywhere within your typed description; doing so will disqualify you from the competition.** The description will be used for entries traveling for publicity purposes and for display purposes; the judges will read entry descriptions if requested by the Call Judge.

## **MATERIALS and CONSTRUCTION:**

Except for the base, entries must be constructed and composed completely of edible materials. **Non-edible materials such as paint and/or ribbon are approved (and encouraged) to decorate the outer edge of your plywood base only (not to exceed the length and/or width of the base).** The main structure of your entry should 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. Due to the danger of working with hot sugar, techniques using poured hot sugar or isomalt are reserved for the teen and adult categories only. Any entry with non-edible components will be automatically disqualified. 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 such as lollipop sticks. All entries must be solely constructed by the individual entering the competition. Teen, Youth and Child competitors may be supervised, for safety precautions, by a parent, legal guardian, or classroom teacher. However, all entry design, construction, and decoration must be done solely by the individual(s) entering the competition. (Acceptable Supervision Example: When Teen, Youth, or Child competitors require assistance with operating the oven and/or stovetop.)

## **JUDGING PROCESS and JUDGING CRITERIA:**

Judging will be held on Monday, November 16, 2015. An Awards Ceremony will be held at approximately 5:30 p.m. on that day.

Entries will be judged based on five criteria:

- Overall Appearance
- Originality & Creativity
- Difficulty
- Precision
- Consistency of Theme (Theme should be competitor's own and consistent throughout the entry.

There is no required theme for the competition.

All rulings by the judges are independent and final. They are in no way influenced by OGPI staff or affiliates. In the event of a tie, the competition Call Judge will be asked to break the tie. In the ADULT category only: Decorative elements that are handmade will carry more weight than similar prefabricated items.

## **ENTRY CHECK-IN and ENTRY PICK-UP:**

Completed entries must be delivered to The Omni Grove Park Inn's Grand Ballroom on either Sunday, November 15, 2015, between 2 and 8 p.m. or on Monday, November 16, 2015, between 7 and 8:30 a.m. The Grand Ballroom is located on Level 8 of the Vanderbilt Wing.

**Driving Directions:** The following is the preferred and easiest route to arrive on property with your gingerbread house: From Charlotte Street, turn left onto Edwin Place (street before Macon Avenue); go through one traffic light; turn right onto Country Club Road; turn right onto Club View Road; stay left on Club View Road; go through stop sign (Vanderbilt Parking Garage is on right); turn right at next stop sign; take next right into parking area; continue up the hill to the Bus Parking Area where a security officer will assist you. You must park your vehicle before going through the Check-In process.

The resort's bus parking area will be the drop-off point and unloading area for entries. Vehicles will be allowed a maximum of ten (10) minutes for unloading entries. A small number of carts for transporting gingerbread entries will only be made available at this location and are not permitted to be removed from this area, as other competitors will need to use them. Violators may be disqualified from the competition. If you have a small hand cart, you are encouraged to bring it to minimize wait time for an available bellcart. Prior to judging, contestant entries are NOT to be handled by any member of the resort staff; this is for the safety of the competition entries.

Entry Check-In will proceed in the following order.

- Check-In tables located on Level 7 (ground level) of the Vanderbilt Wing.
- Photography station located on Level 8 (one level up from check-in tables). You and your entry will be photographed for media purposes.
- Entry placement, predetermined by entry number, in the Grand Ballroom on Level 8.

## **ENTRY PICK-UP**

Competitors that would like to keep their gingerbread entry after the competition display has ended must pick up the entry between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. on Monday, January 4th, 2016, and Tuesday, January 5th, 2016. Entries not picked up will be discarded beginning the morning of Wednesday, January 6th, 2016.

## **DISPLAY INFORMATION**

Entries will be on display at OGPI, or third-party venue deemed appropriate by OGPI, during the resort's holiday season, beginning Wednesday, November 18th, 2015, and ending Sunday, January 3rd, 2016. Permission is granted to OGPI to transport the entry for publicity purposes while understanding that at no time does OGPI guarantee the safety or security of the entry and cannot be held responsible for any damages incurred by the entry on or off the resort's property. The Special Events Department takes extra precautions to help ensure the safe transportation of entries traveling for publicity purposes.

When making plans to visit the National Gingerbread House Display at OGPI, individuals traveling in vehicles larger than a standard parking space will be required to make parking reservations with the resort's security department at extension 1281. Group viewing dates are subject to availability for large vehicle parking, as resort parking is limited. Please also understand that non-resort guest viewing days are limited to Sunday through Thursday; Friday and Saturday viewing is reserved strictly for resort guests dining or staying at OGPI. Please be aware the Grand Prize entry along with other winning entries may be removed from the National Gingerbread House Display during the resort's holiday season for publicity purposes. Past publicity dates have included the seven days prior to Christmas and the seven days following Christmas. Publicity dates for the 2015 holiday season have not been set at this time.

## **ROOM RESERVATIONS**

OGPI offers a discounted room rate to competitors in the 2015 National Gingerbread House Competition™. Information on the discounted room rate and reservation policies for The Omni Grove Park Inn will be emailed separately to the competitor email address on file. Discounted rooms are limited and are reserved on a first-come, first-served basis. Discounted room rates apply only on specific dates and only one room can be booked per competitor/entry.

**PLEASE SEE THE FOLLOWING PAGE FOR THE OFFICIAL 2015 NATIONAL GINGERBREAD HOUSE COMPETITION ENTRY FORM. THIS FORM MUST BE RECEIVED BY THE SPECIAL EVENTS DEPARTMENT BEFORE 5 P.M. ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 7TH. EXCEPTIONS FOR LATE ENTRY FORMS WILL NOT BE MADE. COMPETITORS WILL RECEIVE A CONFIRMATION EMAIL WITH THEIR ENTRY NUMBER ONCE THE ENTRY FORM HAS BEEN PROCESSED.**



Entry Number (assigned by OGPI) \_\_\_\_\_

## THE 2015 NATIONAL GINGERBREAD HOUSE COMPETITION™ 2015 ENTRY FORM

Entry Category (please circle only one per entry form)

Adult (18 and older)

Teen (13-17)

Youth (9-12)

Child (5-8)

If Entering as a Team Team Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Please print the following required information:

Participant:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Mr./Mrs./Ms.) (First) (Middle Initial) (Last)

Mailing address:

\_\_\_\_\_  
(City) (State) (Zip Code)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: E-mail address:

Name of Gingerbread Entry: \_\_\_\_\_

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

1. I must return my entry form by mail or fax no later than 5 p.m. on Friday, November 6, 2015.
2. I must deliver my completed entry to OGPI on either Sunday, November 15, 2015, between 2 and 8 p.m. or on Monday, November 16, 2015, between 7 a.m. and 8:30 a.m.
3. I must follow all of the Rules and Procedures set forth by OGPI.
4. My entry will remain on display during OGPI's holiday season.
5. I must pick up my entry between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. on Monday, January 4, 2016, and Tuesday, January 3, 2016. Entries not picked up will be discarded beginning the morning of Monday, January 5, 2016.
6. Permission is hereby granted to GPI Resort Holdings, LLC, by its agent Omni Hotels Management Corporation (collectively, "The Omni Grove Park Inn" or "OGPI") to print or otherwise duplicate the picture or likeness of my entry and/or myself with my entry for either internal or external release, this includes print and online publications, plus local and network television. I understand that the image of my entry becomes the property of OGPI. Permission is also granted to OGPI to transport my entry for publicity purposes while understanding that at no time does OGPI guarantee the safety or security of my entry and cannot be held responsible for any damages incurred to my entry on or off the resort's property. By participating, each competitor agrees to be bound by all of the Rules and Procedures herein, which may be amended from time to time. OGPI reserves the right to refuse entries that are deemed inappropriate for display at the hotel, to disqualify any competitor who fails to follow the Rules and Procedures contained herein and/or to disqualify any competitor who falsifies any information which is submitted on this entry form.
7. I agree to HOLD HARMLESS, RELEASE, DEFEND, AND INDEMNIFY, GPI RESORT HOLDINGS, LLC, BY ITS AGENT OMNI HOTELS MANAGEMENT CORPORATION, each of their current or former predecessors, successors, each of their affiliated organizations and companies, their insurance companies, their respective agents, employees, representatives, assignees, officers, directors, members, partners, medical providers and shareholders (each a "RELEASED PARTY") for ANY AND ALL LIABILITY and/or claims arising from injury to persons or damage to property arising from the incident, any RELEASED PARTY'S alleged or actual NEGLIGENCE OR GROSS NEGLIGENCE, BREACH OF any express or implied WARRANTY, breach of contract, or breach of any statutory or other duty of care, or mistakes or errors in judgment of any kind. By signing this release, I agree that I am releasing any right to make a claim or file a lawsuit against OGPI. THE RELEASOR AGREES TO DEFEND AND INDEMNIFY each RELEASED PARTY for any and all my claims and/or those of a third party arising from the incident.

Signature of Entrant: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

If the entrant(s) is/are participating in the Teen, Youth or Child categories please complete the section below.

Entrant date of birth (required for Teen, Youth and Child Entrants): \_\_\_\_\_

I affirm that the entrant listed above is \_\_\_\_\_ years of age and will independently design, construct and decorate the entry to be submitted.

Signature of Parent or Guardian: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Entry form must be received by Friday, November 7, 2015. Forms should be sent to The Omni Grove Park Inn 290 Macon Avenue, Asheville, NC 28804. Attn: Special Events or faxed to (828) 252-5585, Attn: Special Events.