

THE 2017 NATIONAL GINGERBREAD HOUSE COMPETITION™

25th ANNIVERSARY

Entry Form Deadline

Friday, November 3, 2017 by 5pm

Public Gingerbread Display

Sunday, November 26, 2017 - Thursday, January 4, 2018

Entry Registration Sunday, November 19, 2017

Child and Youth 9am-1pm | Teen and Adult 2-6pm

Entry Pickup

Sunday, January 7 - Monday, January 8, 2018 from 9am-5pm

OFFICIAL RULES AND PROCEDURES

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 2017 National Gingerbread House Competition™.

Please read the rules and procedures carefully and retain these sheets for your records. 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. For additional questions, please contact the Special Events Department at GPI.Events@omnihotels.com.

INDIVIDUAL ENTERING AND QUALIFYING GUIDELINES

To be eligible for the competition, a completed and signed copy of **Competitor Entry Form A** must be received by email, direct mail or fax no later than 5pm on Friday, November 3, 2017. The Competitor Entry Form A must be signed by the individual entering the competition. If the individual is under the age of 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. Entries that are not pre-registered will not be accepted. Competitors will receive a confirmation email containing their entry number upon receipt of completed Competitor Entry Form A. Each participant may only submit one entry. **Entry Description Form B** and optional photos are due no later than check-in on entry registration day.

TEAM ENTERING AND QUALIFYING GUIDELINES

To be eligible for the competition, a completed and signed copy of **Competitor Entry Form A** and **Team Entry Participant Form C** must be received by email, direct mail or fax no later than 5pm on Friday, November 3, 2017. Please submit one complete copy of Competitor Entry Form A per team including 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/ her contact information. Please submit a list of all team participants using Team Entry Participant Form C. A signature from a parent or legal guardian will be required for each team member under 18 years of age. In the event a team entry wins a prize, the team captain will be the recipient of any prizes. Distribution of ribbon or splitting of any prize will be left to the team captain to determine. We are not able to supply ribbons for each participant. If individuals working on a team entry are of different ages that would place them in different categories independently, the team must enter in the appropriate category for the oldest individual in the group. Individuals 18 years of age but still enrolled in high school may compete in the Teen Category as a member of a team entry. **Entry Description Form B** and optional photos are due no later than check-in on entry registration day.

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 by phone 866-215-5032 or email GPI.events@omnihotels.com.

ENTRY CATEGORIES

The following categories are open for entry into the 2017 National Gingerbread House Competition™

- Adult Category - Individuals 18 years of age and older entering as a single entrant or team.
- Teen Category - Individuals between 13 and 17 years of age entering as a single entrant or team.
- Youth Category - Individuals between 9 and 12 years of age entering as a single entrant or team.
- Child Category - Individuals between 5 and 8 years of age entering as a single entrant or team.

Please return forms to the Special Events Team through one of these channels:

GPI.Events@omnihotels.com | The Omni Grove Park Inn, 290 Macon Avenue, Asheville, NC 28804, Attn: Special Events | Fax (828) 252-5585

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 2017 competition, as long as the entry is in keeping with the competition rules and procedures and the five judging criteria.

JUDGING AND CRITERIA

Judging will be held on Monday, November 20, 2017 with an Awards Ceremony held at approximately 5:30pm.

Entries will be judged on 1) Overall Appearance, 2) Originality & Creativity, 3) Difficulty, 4) Precision and 5) Consistency of Theme. Theme should be competitor's own and consistent throughout the entry. There is no overall theme for the competition.

Adult category only: Decorative elements that are handmade will carry more weight than similar prefabricated items. 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.

SIZE LIMITATIONS

Entry must be placed on a board base. Entries combined with a base must not be larger than 24 inches high, 24 inches wide, and 24 inches long. We suggest using ½" or ¾" plywood as a base for your entry. 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.

MATERIALS AND CONSTRUCTION

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. Use of "Disco Dust", "Rainbow Dust" or hologram powder is permitted.

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, 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 only (not to exceed the length and/or width of the base).

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. Acceptable Supervision Example: When Teen, Youth, or Child competitors require assistance with operating the oven and/or stovetop.

IDENTIFICATION AND DESCRIPTION

Identification requirements have changed significantly from prior years, please read carefully.

Each entry's base must be clearly labeled with their OGPI assigned entry number, visible from a fully seated position, for hotel reference. If you do not arrive with your entry number clearly showing, you will be required to add it at check-in. Examples of successful labeling: small decorative plaques, sign posts, banners, preferably located on the base.

Please submit a copy of Entry Description Form B, due no later than check-in on entry registration day. You are permitted and encouraged to submit up to three photos of your process, but this is not required. You may submit photos prior to or at check-in.

COMPETITOR ROOM RESERVATIONS

OGPI offers a discounted room rate to competitors in the 2017 National Gingerbread House Competition™. Information on the discounted room rate and reservation policies for The Omni Grove Park Inn will be emailed with your entry number once a complete 2017 entry form has been received. When using the room discount code on the web, enter the code in the "Group Code" field. 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. *Additional fees apply for rooms containing more than 2 registered guests. If you are unable to book a room with a type selected, deselect type and search again to search availability.

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ENTRY REGISTRATION

Registration times and procedures have changed significantly from prior years, please read carefully.

Please plan for the entire registration process to take up to two hours. It is mandatory to stay with your entry until final placement.

Sunday, November 19, 2017

Child and Youth Division Registration 9am-1pm

Teen and Adult Division Registration 2pm-6pm

*Monday, November 20, 2017

By appointment only, limited availability 7-8am

*Monday, November 20, 2017 is not an open registration option. This time is reserved for competitors with a valid conflict in attending registration on Sunday, November 19, 2017. Advanced written approval and appointment required.

DRIVING DIRECTIONS

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.

ENTRY REGISTRATION PROCESS

1. **UNLOAD** your entry at the resort's bus parking area in front of the Vanderbilt Wing entrance located on Level 7 (ground level) of the Vanderbilt Wing. Vehicles will be allowed a maximum of 10 minutes in the bus parking area for unloading entries. You must promptly move your vehicle to an approved parking area once you have unloaded your entry. A small number of carts for transporting gingerbread entries will be made available only at this location and are not permitted to be removed from this area. 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 OGPI cart. Prior to judging, contestant entries are not to be handled by any member of the resort staff. Please be certain that any designee delivering an entry is capable of moving the piece without OGPI staff assistance.
2. **CHECK-IN** desk is located on Level 7 (ground level) of the Vanderbilt Wing, just inside the sliding glass doors. You will remain on this level until a cart becomes available to transport your entry to Level 8.
3. **PHOTOGRAPHY STATION** is located on Level 8 (one level up from check-in tables). You and your entry will be photographed for media purposes; mandatory for all competition entries.
4. **ENTRY PLACEMENT** in the Grand Ballroom (Level 8) is predetermined by entry number. We ask that all competitors exit the Ballroom promptly after placing their entry. You are not permitted to view the other entries at this time in order to keep the registration process moving. Entries can be viewed after the Awards Ceremony Monday, November 20, 2017.

PLACING AND PRIZES

The 2017 National Gingerbread House Competition Awards Ceremony will be held Monday, November 20 at approximately 5:30pm. Competitors are welcome to invite family and friends. This ceremony is not open to the public. OGPI will award the title of Grand Prize to one entry from the Adult top ten. One ribbon per entry will be awarded to each top ten winner of the Adult, Teen, Youth and Child categories. Prize checks will be sent to the winner/ 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. In order to expedite this process, please see a Special Events team member after the ceremony.

FURTHEST TRAVELED

The award for the competitor who traveled the furthest distance with their entry is \$1,000 and one ribbon. (Based on mileage within continental United States; must provide proof with valid driver's license)

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ADULT CATEGORY

Grand Prize: \$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, Renshaw and Nicholas Lodge brand products and one ribbon.

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 one ribbon.

3rd Place: \$1,200 prize check, a one-night Mountain View stay at OGPI including breakfast and dinner for two, and one ribbon.

TEEN CATEGORY

1st Place: \$750 Prize check, dinner for four at EDISON, and a ribbon.

2nd Place: \$500 prize check and one ribbon.

3rd Place: \$250 prize check and one ribbon.

YOUTH CATEGORY

1st Place: \$300 prize check, dinner for four at EDISON and one ribbon.

2nd Place: \$200 prize check and one ribbon.

3rd Place: \$100 prize check and one ribbon.

CHILD CATEGORY

1st Place: \$100 prize check, dinner for four at EDISON, and one ribbon.

2nd Place: \$75 prize check and one ribbon

3rd Place: \$50 prize check and one ribbon

2017 GINGERBREAD DISPLAY

Entries will be on public display at OGPI, or third-party venue deemed appropriate by OGPI, during the resort's holiday season, beginning Sunday, November 26, 2017, and ending Thursday, January 4, 2018. With entry, 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. 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 2017 holiday season have not been set at this time. A select number of entries will be sent to The Grove Arcade as an additional display location; these entrants will be notified.

DISPLAY VIEWING DAYS

This year's competition display will be open to the public beginning on November 26, 2017 and continue through January 4, 2018. As a means to preserve the overall guest experience, The Omni Grove Park Inn invites guests not staying at the resort to view the display after 3:00 pm on Sundays or anytime Monday through Thursday, based on parking availability and excluding holidays (December 24, 25, 26, 31 and January 1, 2018.)

VEHICLE PARKING

Standard vehicle parking is subject to availability and is not guaranteed, even with a competitor parking voucher.

Groups visiting the hotel in oversized vehicles must make advanced reservations with the Group Dining or Special Events departments to arrange parking. This applies to buses, vans or any non-standard size vehicle that does not properly fit in a traditional parking space. Oversized vehicles that arrive without prior arrangements may be asked to return at an alternate time, once proper arrangements have been made. For group dining reservations, contact GPI.GroupDining.omnihotels.com, for viewing only reservations, contact GPI.Events@omnihotels.com.

ENTRY PICKUP

Competitors that wish to keep their gingerbread entry after the competition display has ended, the entry must be picked up the entry between the hours of 9am and 5pm on Sunday, January 7, 2018, or Monday, January 8, 2018. Entries not picked up will be discarded beginning at 6pm on Monday, January 8, 2018. Separate pick-up information will be sent to entrants whose pieces are being displayed at The Grove Arcade.

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THE 2017 NATIONAL GINGERBREAD HOUSE COMPETITION™

COMPETITOR ENTRY FORM A

REQUIRED FOR ALL ENTRIES | DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 3, 2017

Please complete clearly and in print as Entrant / Team Captain:

Entry Category (circle one): Adult (18 and older) Teen (13-17) Youth (9-12) Child (5-8)

Name of Gingerbread Entry: _____

Team Name (if applicable): _____

First: _____ Middle: _____ Last: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Email Address: _____

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 Email, fax, or mail no later than 5pm on Friday, November 3, 2017.
2. I must deliver my completed entry to OGPI on Sunday, November 19, 2016, between 9am and 6pm. Only entries with an appointment will be accepted on Monday, November 20, 2017.
3. My entry will remain on display during OGPI's holiday season through Saturday, January 6, 2018.
4. I must pick up my entry between the hours of 9am and 5pm on Sunday, January 7, 2018, and Monday, January 8, 2018. Entries not picked up will be discarded beginning at 6pm on Monday, January 8, 2018.
5. 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 entry form information.
6. 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 / Team Captain: _____ Date: _____

Entrant date of birth (required if under 18): _____ Age: _____

I affirm that the entrant listed above will independently design, construct and decorate the entry to be submitted.

Signature of Parent or Guardian: _____ Date: _____

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ENTRY DESCRIPTION FORM B

REQUIRED FOR ALL ENTRIES | DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 3, 2017

Entry Number: _____

Name of Gingerbread Entry: _____

Please do not include your name in the title of your gingerbread entry or anywhere within your typed description; doing so compromises the judging process and may disqualify you from the competition.

Description of your Entry: Explain the backstory and/or theme and materials used in the construction process.

OPTIONAL: Up to three photos of your process may be included but are not required. If included, please attach photos in a sealed and labeled envelope.

TEAM ENTRY PARTICPATION FORM C

REQUIRED FOR ALL TEAM ENTRIES | DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 3, 2017

Printed Name of Entrant _____ Birth Date: ____/____/____

Signature of Entrant: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Parent or Guardian: _____ Date: _____

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

Printed Name of Entrant _____ Birth Date: ____/____/____

Signature of Entrant: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Parent or Guardian: _____ Date: _____

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

Printed Name of Entrant _____ Birth Date: ____/____/____

Signature of Entrant: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Parent or Guardian: _____ Date: _____

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

Printed Name of Entrant _____ Birth Date: ____/____/____

Signature of Entrant: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Parent or Guardian: _____ Date: _____

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

Printed Name of Entrant _____ Birth Date: ____/____/____

Signature of Entrant: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Parent or Guardian: _____ Date: _____

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

Printed Name of Entrant _____ Birth Date: ____/____/____

Signature of Entrant: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Parent or Guardian: _____ Date: _____

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

Printed Name of Entrant _____ Birth Date: ____/____/____

Signature of Entrant: _____ Date: _____

Signature of Parent or Guardian: _____ Date: _____

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

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