



12th Annual Gingerbread House Competition

Rules and Procedures

The following Rules and Procedures have been set forth and established by Simsbury Celebrates Gingerbread House Committee for the purpose of the 2021 Simsbury Celebrates Gingerbread House Competition. Please retain these rules for your records. For additional information, visit www.simsburycelebrates.com or email questions to simsburycelebrates@gmail.com.

REGISTRATION

The competition is open to all individuals and businesses, however the Simsbury Celebrates Gingerbread House Committee reserves the right to refuse any entry deemed inappropriate. **Due to space limitations, only the first 25 entrants are guaranteed acceptance into the competition.**

The registration deadline is Friday, November 12, 2021. Completed entry forms may be submitted online at www.simsburyrec.com or mailed to Simsbury Celebrates Gingerbread House Competition, c/o Simsbury Parks and Recreation Dept., 933 Hopmeadow St, Simsbury, CT 06070. Entry forms must contain all required signatures and the entry fee to be considered complete.

All entries must be registered. Entry numbers will be assigned upon receipt of the completed entry form. Competitors will receive a confirmation email. All participants must be listed on the entry form.

Only one Gingerbread House per entry form is permitted, and individuals may have only one entry in each category for which they are eligible to compete. The 2021 Simsbury Celebrates Gingerbread House Competition Entry Form must be signed by the individual(s) entering the competition. If the individual is younger than eighteen (18) by November 12, 2021, a signature from a parent or legal guardian is required in addition to the minor's signature.

CATEGORIES AND PRIZES

The Simsbury Celebrates Gingerbread House Committee will award a prize to all first-place winners in the competitive categories. In the case of a group entry, the prize will be awarded to the lead team member on the entry form.

Masters - bakers, chefs, caterers, artists, etc.; may include one or more individuals

Adults – Entrants age 16 and older; may include one or more individuals

Youth – Entrants age 15 and under; may include one or more individuals

Mixed Groups – Groups comprised of both youth and adults; may include two or more individuals

Display Only – any individual or group entering the competition that does not wish to compete for a prize

For any team entering the competition, one entrant should be listed as the group lead team member, and all other entrants should be listed. A signature from a parent or legal guardian is also required for each member under the age of 18.

The Youth category is for youths (individual or team) age 15 or under who independently design, construct and decorate their entry (i.e. no parental assistance).

The Mixed Group category is for groups consisting of both Youth and Adult members. This includes youth groups, scout troops, and families with adults and children. **Children receiving parental assistance should submit an entry in this category.**

ENTRY SPECIFICATIONS

All entries must be constructed of 100% edible materials. The board base may be of, and covered with, non-food related material (for example a plywood base covered with fabric or plastic). Battery operated lighting is permissible. Kits may be used; however, difficulty and originality scores will be impacted. Non-edible decorations and ornaments, including figurines or dolls, are not permitted.

Entries must be submitted on a board base. We suggest using a ½ or ¾ inch plywood. Entries, including the base, must not be larger than 24 inches wide and 24 inches long (no restriction on height), however entries **are not required** to reach this maximum size. **Anything exceeding these measurements will be disqualified.**

Please include, on a separate sheet that will be displayed in your area, the materials used in the gingerbread house construction process. The top of your sheet should have the name of your gingerbread house. **Please DO NOT include your name in the name of your gingerbread house.**

JUDGING

Entries will be judged in the following categories:

Overall Appearance, Originality & Creativity, Difficulty, Precision, and Consistency of Theme. The special theme for the 2021 Gingerbread House Competition is **“Favorite Movie”** and entries incorporating this theme will receive special recognition. Following the theme is encouraged, but not required, for the competition. The theme is also not required to be holiday related.

Each competitive category will be awarded ribbons for first, second and third place finishes, with the first-place finishes also receiving a prize. Each group is responsible for determining how to share any prizes. After the initial judges scoring, any tie-breakers may be broken at the sole discretion of the judge.

Judging will be held Sunday, November 21, 2021. All entries must be delivered between 12:00 and 1:30pm. The judging will take place from 2:00-3:30pm, and winners will be announced outside the Free Library at 4:00pm. Due to the ongoing pandemic, we will update the entrants via email regarding protocols around entry drop-off, judging and in-person viewing prior to Sunday, November 21. Winning entries will be marked following the judging and until entries are picked up.

POST COMPETITION

Due to the ongoing pandemic, protocols surrounding the display of entries and the opportunity for limited walk-in visitors, will be determined in November. Because in person viewing on the entries may be limited, we plan to have the entries filmed by SCTV to be aired on the night of Simsbury Celebrates and possibly throughout the month of December. Simsbury Celebrates Gingerbread House Committee has sole permission to print or otherwise duplicate the picture or likeness of the entry and/or the entrant with the entry for either internal or external release; this includes print and online publications as well as local television. It is understood that the image of the entry becomes property of Simsbury Celebrates Gingerbread House Committee.

All entries should be **picked up on Sunday, December 5, 2021 between 12-1 PM.** Unless arrangements have been made in advance, entries not picked up by this time will be disposed of or donated.