



## Important Dates

October 23, 8 a.m.	Registration Opens
November 20, 11:59 p.m.	Registration Closes
December 5-6	Entry Drop-Off - day may vary by assigned location
December 7-15	All Entries on Display
December 16	Winning Entries Notified
December 17-30	Winning Entries on Display at Cary Arts Center

Cary's Gingerbread House Competition will transform Downtown Cary into a walking gallery of amateur gingerbread houses! Register on your own or with a team. Adults and youth welcome.

Be a part of this sweet tradition in Downtown Cary!

## Winners

An award and ribbon will be awarded to the highest scoring entry of each category, overall 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place, and People's Choice, for up to 7 total winners. Each winning entry will be on display at the Cary Arts Center throughout December.

## Participating

### Categories

Adult	18 years of age and older entering individually or as a team
Teen	13-17 years of age entering individually or as a team Participants 18 years of age but still enrolled in high school may compete in the Teen category
Youth	5-12 years of age entering individually or as a team
Family/Group	Team comprised of any combination of Adults, Teens, or Youth

## **Team Entry**

If all individuals working on a team fit under one category, they should apply in that category. If individuals working on a team fit under more than one category, they should apply in the Family/Group category.

Distribution of ribbon and splitting of any prize will be left to the team to determine. Only one ribbon is awarded per winning entry.

## **Communications**

The registered competitor, or their guardian for minors, will receive all correspondence regarding the competition. If the individual entering is under 18 years of age, consent from a parent or legal guardian is required in addition to disclosing the minor's date of birth. For youth participants, the contact provided at registration needs to be an adult.

Each participant or team may only submit one entry.

## **Entry Criteria**

### **Judging**

All entries are judged by a group of community representatives selected by Cary. Each category will receive at least one award, in addition to an overall 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> Place. People's Choice is determined by online public voting, which will be available December 7-15.

Entries are judged based on: overall appearance, creativity/originality, technique/skill, and difficulty.

### **Size**

Entry must be placed on a board base not exceeding 18"x18". A 1/2" or 3/4" plywood base is recommended. Cardboard bases will not be accepted. No element of your entry should extend beyond the edge of the base. Height should not exceed 24". Please include your name and entry title on the bottom of your base.

### **Materials & Construction**

Everything above the base of your entry must be 100% edible. The main structure of your entry must be at least 75% gingerbread. The use of gingerbread house kits is allowed only in the Youth category.

Edible materials are not limited to candies and icings. Use of gum paste, fondant, chocolate, modeling chocolate, royal icing, gelatin, and pressed sugar is encouraged. For safety reasons, techniques using poured hot sugar or iso-malt are not allowed in the Youth category.

Non-edible support structures and decorations above the baseboard such as styrofoam, lighting, or plastic figures will disqualify an entry from judging. Non-edible materials can only be used to decorate the sides of the base.

Entries must be solely constructed by the individual(s) entering the competition. Youth competitors may be supervised by an adult but not overly assisted.