

# 2019 Hudson Valley Gingerbread Competition at Mohonk Mountain House Rules and Entry Forms

## Entry Form Deadline:

- **Friday, November 8, 2019 at 5:00pm**  
*(or until available spaces are all filled)*

## Entry Confirmation:

- **Tuesday, November 12, 2019 at 5:00pm**

## Gingerbread Display at Mohonk Mountain House:

- **Monday, December 9, 2019 through  
Wednesday, January 1, 2020**

## Sunday, December 8, 2019 – Gingerbread Competition

- **Registration and Set up:**
  - **8:30–10:30am**  
*(competitors only)*
- **Judging:**
  - **11:00am – 12:30pm**  
*(closed to the public and competitors)*
- **Public Viewing and Viewer's Choice Voting:**
  - **12:30–3:30pm**
- **Awards Ceremony:**
  - **4:00pm**

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The following rules and procedures have been set forth and established by Mohonk Mountain House for the 2019 Hudson Valley Gingerbread Competition at Mohonk Mountain House. Please read the rules and procedures carefully and retain for your records. You are encouraged to submit your Entry Form early—due to space constraints, only a limited number of entries will be accepted. Mohonk Mountain House reserves the right to refuse any entry deemed inappropriate. For additional questions, please email [gingerbread@mohonk.com](mailto:gingerbread@mohonk.com).

## ENTRY SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

### **INDIVIDUAL ENTRY**

To be eligible for the competition, a completed Competitor Entry Form must be submitted and received by email or fax by 5pm on Friday, November 8, 2019. All correspondence, notifications, and updates regarding the competition will be sent via email to the registered competitor. If the competitor is under the age of 18, a signature from a parent or legal guardian is required for the minor to participate. Competitors will receive a confirmation email containing their entry number upon acceptance of their entry. Each participant may only submit one entry. A printed copy of the Entry Description Form and optional photos are due at registration on Sunday, December 8, 2019.

### **TEAM ENTRY**

A “team” constitutes two or more people contributing to the entry. To be eligible for the competition, a completed Competitor Entry Form must be submitted and received by email or fax by 5:00pm on Friday, November 8, 2019. All correspondence, notifications, and updates regarding the competition will be sent via email to the designated Team Captain. Teams must submit one Competitor Entry Form, including only the Team Captain's contact information, along with a Team Entry Form complete with a list of each team member's full name and age. 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.

If individuals working on a team entry are of different ages, the team must enter in the appropriate category for the oldest individual in the group. If team members are under the age of 18, a signature from a parent or legal guardian is required for each minor to participate. In the event a team entry wins a prize, the Team Captain will be the recipient of any prizes. Distribution of the ribbon or the splitting of any prize will be left to the team captain to determine. We are not able to supply ribbons or prizes for each participant. Competitors will receive a confirmation email containing their entry number upon acceptance of their entry. Each participant may only submit one entry. A printed copy of the Entry Description Form and optional photos are due at registration on Sunday, December 8, 2019.

*\*Please note that if one of the team members is an employee of Mohonk Mountain House or an immediate family member (ages 18 and older) of an employee, the team will compete in the Employee & Family category.*

### **ENTRY CATEGORIES**

The following categories are open for entry into the 2019 Hudson Valley Gingerbread Competition

- **Adult Category** - 18 years of age and older entering as a single entrant or team.
- **Junior Category** - 10 through 17 years of age entering as a single entrant or team.
- **Mohonk Employees & Families Category** – Current Mohonk Mountain House Employees or their immediate family entering as a single entrant or team.

## **MOHONK EMPLOYEE & FAMILIES GUIDELINES**

This category is for current Employees of Mohonk Mountain House and their immediate families. Immediate family members are spouses, children, parents, grandparents or siblings of a current Mohonk Mountain House Employee.

**Of Note:** Children ages 10-17 who enter as individuals or part of a children's only team will compete in the Junior Category. If an employee or their family member (family members 18 years of age and up not employed at Mohonk Mountain House) is part of a team the entire team will compete in the Mohonk Employee and Families Category.

## **ENTRY ACCEPTANCE AND CONFIRMATION**

Entries will be accepted on a first come basis. A fixed number of entries will be accepted into each category. Once that category is filled, registration will be closed. Please make sure your Competitor Entry Form is filled out correctly before submitting. Entries will be reviewed as they are received, if there are additional questions a Gingerbread Committee Member will reach out to the competitor or team captain. If the entry is accepted the competitor or team captain will receive confirmation and their entry number by Tuesday, November 12, 2019.

## **ENTRY CRITERIA**

### **JUDGING AND CRITERIA**

Entries will be judged on A) Overall Appearance, B) Originality & Creativity, C) Difficulty, D) Precision, and E) Consistency of Theme.

There is no required theme for the competition, the entry is not limited to the structure of a house. Competitors are encouraged to use their creativity when designing and constructing their entry, as long as it adheres to the competition rules, procedures, and judging criteria. The theme should be a competitor's own and consistent throughout the entry. Mohonk Mountain House reserves the right to refuse any entry deemed inappropriate. We respectfully ask that the design be appropriate for families with young children.

There must be at least 25% exposed Gingerbread on the entry, the entries with less than 25% of the Gingerbread exposed will be disqualified. The Gingerbread can be painted or dyed, but must clearly be recognizable as Gingerbread. Decorative elements that are handmade will carry more weight than similar prefabricated items, and using store bought kits is strongly discouraged. All rulings by the judges are independent and final. They are in no way influenced by Mohonk Mountain House staff or affiliates. In the event of a tie, the competition Call Judge will be asked to break the tie. Judging will be closed to the public and competitors.

### **SIZE LIMITATIONS**

The entry must be placed on a board base. Combined with a base, the entry must not be larger than 24 inches high, 24 inches wide, and 24 inches long. We suggest using a plywood as a base for your entry. The usage of pegs or risers on the bottom of the base may be used, but is not required. If you wish to install pegs or risers on the underside of your base, they are considered as part of the base and should not cause the entry's height to exceed 24 inches.

### **MATERIALS & CONSTRUCTION**

- Everything above the base of your entry that is visible must be constructed and composed completely of edible materials.
- Non-visible supports may be made of non-edible materials.
- The main structure of your entry must be constructed of at least 50% Gingerbread, and at least 25% of the Gingerbread must be exposed.
- The Gingerbread can be painted or dyed light colors, but must clearly be recognizable as Gingerbread.
- 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 adult categories.
- Any entry with non-edible components visible will be automatically disqualified.
- No external or internal lighting may be used.
- Candies must be unwrapped and free of any non-edible materials.
- Non-edible materials such as paint and/or ribbon can be used only to decorate the outer edge of your plywood base and are considered as part of the base and should not cause the entry's height to exceed 24 inches.
- All entries must be solely constructed by the individuals entering the competition.
- For safety precautions, Junior competitors may be supervised, by a parent, legal guardian, or classroom teacher when Junior competitors require assistance with operating the oven and/or stovetop.

### **ENTRY IDENTIFICATION**

Entry must be clearly labeled with the assigned entry number visible on the front of the base for judging reference. If you arrive without your entry number clearly showing, you will be required to add it at registration.

## **ENTRY DESCRIPTION**

The purpose of this description is to inform the judges of your vision, process, materials, and techniques used in creating your entry. This is also where any theme or backstory of your entry can be briefly explained. A printed copy of the Entry Description Form and optional photos are due at registration on Sunday, December 8, 2019. You are permitted and encouraged to submit up to three photos of your process, but this is not required.

## **ARRIVAL, PARKING & REGISTRATION PROCESS**

Please plan enough time to complete the drive to Mohonk Mountain House, unload your entry, park your vehicle in our self-parking lot, and register on Sunday, December 8, 2019 between 8:30 – 10:30am.

- Place the parking voucher received in your confirmation email on the dashboard of your vehicle upon arrival to the Gatehouse. The Gatehouse will have your name on the Gingerbread Competitors list.
- Competitors are guaranteed parking from 8:30 – 10:30am however if they choose to leave property after registration and return for public viewing, parking will be available on a first come first serve basis.
- One complimentary car per entry will be permitted; additional people in additional cars will be charged \$15.00 per person. The money collected from this entry fee will be donated to the Food Bank of the Hudson Valley.
- Follow the signs to the Gingerbread Staging Area, where a Mohonk Employee will be holding traffic. When directed, proceed to the Gingerbread Drop Off Area at Grove Entrance under the green awning.
- After unloading your entry, park your vehicle in one of our self-parking lots. We strongly encourage having someone designated to move the vehicle while the entry is being moved into the Mountain House and set up.
- Employee competitors need to park their vehicle in their designated parking lot.
- Vehicles will be allowed a maximum of 10 minutes in the drop off area to unload entries and bring them into the West Dining Room via our Carriage Lounge. You must promptly move your vehicle to an approved parking area once you have unloaded your entry.
- A limited number of carts are available at this location for transporting gingerbread entries and are not permitted to be removed from this area. If you have a small hand cart, you are encouraged to bring it to minimize wait time. There is a paved path leading from the drop off area to the Grove Entrance; it is up a small hill. Mohonk carts can only be used to transport the piece from the unloading area to the inside of the entrance. The piece will need to be carried from the entrance through the Carriage Lounge into the West Dining Room.
- Prior to judging, entries are not to be handled by any member of the Mohonk staff, staff will be on hand to hold doors open and direct entrants where to go.
- The registration desk is located just inside the Carriage Lounge, which connects to the West Dining Room. Turn right inside the Grove Entrance, then left to enter the Carriage Lounge.
- After registering, you will be directed to your entry's dedicated placement area in the West Dining Room, which is predetermined by your entry number. We ask that after you register at the desk, place your entry in its designated space, and return to park your car, if not already done.
- **FINAL TOUCHES** or any components of the entry that need to be added, fixed, or secured may be made during the registration period until 10:30am. At this time the doors will be shut for photography and judging. Competitors who do not adhere to this time constraint will be disqualified. The West Dining Room will be closed to competitors and the public until judging is complete.

## **DEPARTURE PROCESS**

After the Awards Ceremony has concluded competitors who did not place in the top five in each category who wish to bring their Gingerbread creations home can retrieve their vehicle and proceed to the Gingerbread Staging area to wait their turn to proceed to the Gingerbread Drop Off area where they can load the Gingerbread piece into their vehicle and follow the signs to exit the property. A member of our staff will be greeting and directing people in each location.

## **COMPETITOR ROOM AND MEAL RESERVATIONS**

- Mohonk Mountain House offers a discounted room rate to competitors in the 2019 Hudson Valley Gingerbread Competition for the night of Sunday, December 8, 2019. Information on the discounted room rates and reservation policies for Mohonk Mountain House will be emailed with your confirmation and entry number. Discounted rooms are limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis for the night of Sunday, December 8, 2019.
- Meal reservations for Sunday Brunch in the Main Dining can be reserved by calling 855-892-2899, availability is limited.
- Snacks and lighter fare will be available in Carriage Lounge and Gift Shop.

## **CANCELLATION POLICY / SNOW**

Mohonk Mountain House acknowledges that situations may cause competitors to withdraw from the competition. In the event you are no longer able to compete, please inform us by email, at [gingerbread@mohonk.com](mailto:gingerbread@mohonk.com). In the event of inclement weather, Mohonk Mountain House is unable to reschedule this event and it will take place as scheduled. Please email [gingerbread@mohonk.com](mailto:gingerbread@mohonk.com) if you are unable to attend the competition.

## **PLACING & PRIZES**

Mohonk Mountain House will award prizes for the first, second, and third place entries of the following categories: Adult, Junior, and Employee. One ribbon per entry will be awarded. Please remember that if a team competes that the distribution of the ribbon or the splitting of any prize will be left to the Team Captain to determine. We are unable to supply ribbons or prizes for each participant. By entering this competition, you are agreeing to allow Mohonk Mountain House to exhibit your entry if it places in the top five of each category or if it chosen as the viewer's choice. If a winning entry is taken home prior to the end of the viewing period the competitor will forfeit their prize.

### **Adult Category:**

**First Place:** A two-night stay at Mohonk Mountain House for two adults along with two complimentary beverages from our Carriage Lounge.

**Second Place:** A one-night stay at Mohonk Mountain House for two adults.

**Third Place:** Dinner at Mohonk Mountain House for four people.

### **Junior Category:**

**First Place:** Lunch or Dinner at Mohonk Mountain House and Recreation Access Passes for four people.

**Second Place:** Lunch or Dinner at Mohonk Mountain House with access to our Hiking trails for four people.

**Third Place:** Hiking Passes to Mohonk Mountain House and access to 18 holes of Disc Golf for four people and four Disc Golf discs.

### **Mohonk Employee & Families Category:**

**First Place:** A two-night stay for two adults at the Kimberly Hotel in New York City.

**Second Place:** An overnight stay at Mohonk Mountain House for one night for two adults.

**Third Place:** Dinner at Mohonk Mountain House for four people.

**Viewer's Choice Award:** Each individual attendee can cast one vote for their favorite entry to help choose the overall Viewer's Choice winner. Voting will be held Sunday, December 8, 2019 from 12:30pm until 3:30pm and the winner will be announced during the awards ceremony at 4:00pm. The Viewer's Choice winning entry will also be displayed in the resort until Wednesday, January 1, 2020. The winner will receive dinner at Mohonk Mountain House for four people.

## **2019 GINGERBREAD DISPLAY**

Selected entries will be on display at Mohonk Mountain House during the resort's holiday season beginning the afternoon of Monday, December 9, 2019, and ending Wednesday, January 1, 2020. Permission is granted to Mohonk Mountain House to transport the entry for publicity purposes while understanding that at no time does Mohonk Mountain House guarantee the safety or security of the entry and cannot be held responsible for any damages incurred to the entry on or off the resort's property. Mohonk Mountain House takes extra precautions to help ensure the safe transportation of entries to their display area.

## **ENTRY PICK-UP OR DISPOSAL**

- Non-winning competitors that would like to keep their gingerbread entry after the competition has ended must pick up the entry either after the awards ceremony on the evening of Sunday, December 8, 2019 or on Monday, December 9, 2019 between the hours of 9:00am and 5:00pm. Entries not picked up will be discarded beginning the morning of Tuesday, December 10, 2019.
- Winning competitors whose pieces are on display can pick up their pieces if they wish to keep them on Thursday, January 2, 2020. Please email [gingerbread@mohonk.com](mailto:gingerbread@mohonk.com) to arrange a pick up time.
- Winning entries not picked up will be discarded beginning the morning of Friday, January 3, 2020.

PLEASE SEE THE ADDITIONAL LINKS ON THE WEBPAGE FOR THE OFFICIAL ENTRY FORMS. THE FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED BY 5PM ON FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2019. 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.