

CITY OF KYLE
2023 GINGERBREAD HOUSE COMPETITION
OFFICIAL RULES AND GUIDELINES



Entry Form Deadline

Monday, November 20, 2023, by 4pm

REQUIRED: Entry Description Summary

Friday, November 20, 2023

Entry Registration opens

Monday, October 2, 2023,

Child | 5-8 years old.

Youth | 13-17 years old

Adult | 18 and older

Team | 2 – 5 people

2023 Gingerbread Competition voting

Friday, December 1, 2023, at 6:00pm

Voting for the People's Choice Award begins promptly at 5:15pm

Gingerbread Display - Public Viewing

Friday, December 1, 2023, starting at 4:00pm

THE 2023 NATIONAL GINGERBREAD HOUSE COMPETITION

The first City of Kyle Gingerbread House Competition will be held in-person on Friday, December 1, 2023, the announcement of the winners will be during the Santa's Arrival event. Competition judging will be conducted in-person at Mary Kyle Harston Park.

Gingerbread artists of all ages and backgrounds are invited to compete. The judging panel will recognize nine entries that best fit each accolade. **See Prizes + Placing section for more information.**

To top things off, the public will choose a winner for the People's Choice: Best In Show Award! All registered Competitors will have the opportunity to vote on their favorite piece of the entire Competition and those votes will determine the winner. **See Placing + Prizes section for more information.**

JUDGING PROCEDURE

All Gingerbread entries will be judged in-person at Mary Kyle Hartson Park. After judging on Friday, December 1, the Top 9 finalists will be selected, which is the Top 3 finalists from each age category.

WINNER ANNOUNCEMENT

We will celebrate all Competitors with the in-person Awards during the Santa's Arrival event, as well as have them up on all our social media for recognition.

OFFICIAL RULES AND PROCEDURES

Please read all information fully and carefully. The following rules and procedures have been set forth.



The deadline to submit the Competitor Entry Form is **November 20, 2023, at 4:00pm**. The City of Kyle Parks and Recreation Department reserves the right to refuse any entry deemed inappropriate. For additional questions, please contact saligaweesa@cityofkyle.com

ENTRY CATEGORY GUIDELINES

INDIVIDUAL ENTRY

To be eligible for the Competition, the Competitor Entry Form must be received by **4:00pm on November 20, 2023**. Additionally, the Entry Description Summary Form must be submitted at time of registration on **November 20, 2023**.

The registered Competitor will receive all correspondence, notifications, and updates regarding the Gingerbread House Competition via email. If the individual entering is under 18 years of age by the date of the Competition entry, consent from a parent or legal guardian is required. Each participant may only submit one entry. Following receipt of the Competitor Entry Form, entrant will receive a confirmation email. All entrants are required to include an Entry Description Summary for which the form is included at the end of the Rules.

TEAM ENTRY

To be eligible for the Competition, the Competitor Entry Form must be received by **4:00 November 20, 2023**. Additionally, the Entry Description Summary Form must be submitted at time of registration on **November 20, 2023**.

Each team entry must designate a Team Captain. The Team Captain will receive all correspondence, notifications, and updates on behalf of the team regarding entry via email. Teams are to submit only one Competitor Entry Form, including only the Team Captain's contact information. If entering as a school group, the classroom teacher should be listed as the Team Captain and provide their contact information.

If individuals working on a team entry are of varied ages, 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. If the individual(s) entering is under 18 years of age by the date of the Competition, consent from a parent/legal guardian(s) is required. Each participant may only submit one entry. In the event a team entry wins a prize, the Team Captain will be the recipient of any prizes. Distribution of ribbon and splitting of any prize will be left to the team captain to determine. We are not able to supply ribbons for each participant. Following receipt of the Competitor Entry Form, the Team Captain will receive a confirmation email. All entrants are required to include an Entry Description Summary for which the form is included at the end of the Rules.

ENTRY CATEGORIES

The following categories are available for entry into the 2023 The City of Kyle Parks and Recreation Department 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.
- Team Category – A group of 2-5 participants.

ENTRY CRITERIA



JUDGING

All entries will be judged on five criteria:

1) Overall Appearance, 2) Originality and Creativity, 3) Difficulty, 4) Precision and 5) Consistency of Theme.

There is no overall theme for the competition. Although competition is titled "The 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 2023 Competition. Theme should be competitor's own and consistent throughout the entry.

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 staff/affiliates or Competitors. 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**. **½" or ¾" plywood as a base for your entry is recommended**. Use of pegs/risers/feet on the bottom of the base is preferred but not required. If you wish to install pegs/risers/feet on the underside of your base, they are considered as part of the base and must not cause the entry's overall height to exceed 24 inches. Weight is not to exceed 50 pounds.

MATERIALS AND CONSTRUCTION

Please read carefully.

Everything above the base of your entry must be composed completely of edible materials. Competitors are permitted to use up to 40% mechanically produced components in their entry. Examples include machine designed, 3D printed and laser cut components. 60% of each entry must be handcrafted. 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. This includes melted sugar candies. Any entry with non-edible components or using unapproved techniques will be automatically disqualified from placing in the competition. No artificial display materials, such as Styrofoam, interior lighting or other electronic components 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 to decorate the outer edge of your plywood base only. Decorations must not cause the entry to exceed the required size limitations.

Entries must be solely constructed by the individual(s) entering the competition. Teen, Youth and Child competitors may be supervised, for safety precautions, by a parent, legal guardian, or classroom teacher. Example: assistance with operating a stove top or oven.

REQUIRED: ENTRY DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

Please read carefully.



The purpose of this summary is to better inform the judges of your vision, theme, backstory, process, technique, and material usage that may not be obvious from viewing the finished product.

Summary is to be submitted, Summary cannot exceed two, typed pages. A physical, printed copy of the Entry Description Summary is required to be submitted at registration. This document will be available for review during the anonymous judging process. To remain complaint, please do not include any Competitor, team or organization name(s) anywhere in the summary. Summary must be completely anonymous and free from identifying factors.

Suggested Prompts:

- What inspired your piece? What is the backstory?
- How many hours did you spend crafting your entry?
- How many pounds of Gingerbread was used in your piece? How many pounds of sugar?
- How much does your piece weigh (in pounds)?
- What ingredients did you use? Any new/unique ingredients?
- Did your original vision change during the process?
- What was your experience like creating your entry this year?
- What makes Gingerbread special to you?
- Have you pioneered any new techniques?
- Do you create your own mold

COMPETITOR ENTRY FORM | REQUIRED FOR ALL ENTRIES | DEADLINE: November 20, 2023



All fields are mandatory.

Entry Classification (check one): Individual Entry Team Entry

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

Date of birth if under 18 years of age: ____/____/____

Team Name (Team Entries Only). May not exceed 30 characters including spaces:

Entry Title. May not exceed 30 characters including spaces:

If you are entering as a team, please provide the full name and age of each additional competitor:

Complete as an Individual Competitor or Team Captain

First: _____ Middle: _____ Last: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Phone: _____ Email Address: _____

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

1. I must submit my Competitor Entry Form in digital form, email, or direct mail no later than 4:00pm on Friday, November 20, 2023.
2. I must submit a printed copy of my required Entry Description Summary at registration on Fri, November 20, 2022.
3. I acknowledge that if selected as a Top 3 finalist from my category, I must make best effort to be available Friday, December 1, 2023.
4. I must pick up my entry at the end of the event on December 1, 2023.
5. By voluntarily participating in the Competition, I've consented to receiving email communication from the city employee in charge of the event about the Competition itself and future Competition planning/media requests as they arise.
6. I hereby grant permission to the City of Kyle Parks and Recreation Department 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, video and online publications, plus local and network television. I understand that the image of my entry becomes the property of the city. I understand that at no time does the City of Kyle Parks and Recreation Department guarantee the safety or security of my entry and cannot be held responsible for any damages incurred to my entry. By participating, each Competitor agrees to be bound by all Rules and Procedures herein, which may be amended from time to time. The City of Kyle Parks and Recreation Department reserves the right to refuse entries that are deemed inappropriate for display at the event, 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.
7. I hereby release the City of Kyle, the City of Kyle Parks and Recreation Department, their agents, employees, officers, and servants from any and all damages and injuries which may occur while I am participating in the Santa's Arrival Event. I agree to all terms of the 2023 Gingerbread House Competition and have fully read the Official 2023 Rules and Procedures. Any/all Competitors submitted as a contributors have parent/guardian permission to participate in the 2023 competition.

Signature of Entrant / Team Captain: _____

Date: _____

