THE 2018 NATIONAL GINGERBREAD HOUSE COMPETITION
OFFICIAL RULES AND PROCEDURES

Entry Form Deadline
Friday, November 2, 2018 by 5pm

2018 Gingerbread Competition Awards Ceremony
Monday, November 19, 2018 at 5:30pm

Entry Registration Sunday, November 18, 2018
Child and Youth 9am-1pm | Teen and Adult 2-6pm

Public Gingerbread Display
Sunday, November 25, 2018 - Friday, January 4, 2019

RULES AND PROCEDURES
Please read carefully and retain these sheets for your records. 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 2018 National Gingerbread House Competition™. You are encouraged to submit your entry form early and before the deadline to ensure entry into the competition as space is limited. OGPI reserves the right to refuse any entry deemed inappropriate. For additional questions, please contact the Special Events Department GPI.Events@omnihotels.com.

INDIVIDUAL ENTERING AND QUALIFYING GUIDELINES
To be eligible for the competition, a complete and signed copy of Competitor Entry Form A must be received by email, direct mail or fax no later than 5pm on Friday, November 2, 2018. The Competitor Entry Form A must be signed by the individual entering the competition. If the individual is under 18 years of age 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. 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 and Process Description Form B and optional photos are due no later than 5pm on Friday, November 2, 2018.

TEAM ENTERING AND QUALIFYING GUIDELINES
To be eligible for the competition, a complete and signed copy of Competitor Entry Form A and Team Entry Form C must be received by email, direct mail or fax no later than 5pm on Friday, November 2, 2018. Please submit one complete copy of Competitor Entry Form A per team 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 his/her contact information. Please submit a list of all team participants using Team Entry 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 and 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 and Process Description Form B and optional photos are due no later than 5pm on Friday, November 2, 2018.

FILM RELEASE NOTIFICATION
A National Cable Network is planning to film this year’s Gingerbread competition. Please be advised that by entering into the competition, entrants acknowledge that they may appear on camera as a part of this television special. As competitors plan to submit this year, please keep in mind that the production company is hoping to do a short interview with each of the top ten finalists in the Adult Category – but it is NOT a requirement as part of your submission. The production company will start conducting interviews the evening of the 19th then continue all day November 20th.

The program is showcasing the interesting gingerbread making techniques, so they are also hoping to tape some demos on camera the day after the competition. Whether it’s a finishing design technique, hand-painting specialty, or sculpting expertise – these short demos will give their audience a window into the highly skilled world of gingerbread making. This is NOT a requirement, but rather a possibility, for the Top 10 Adult Finalists and all other Adult Category Entrants. After you have submitted your entry, please feel free to email the production company directly at Gingerbreadtvshow@gmail.com to ask them questions about this opportunity. Be patient with their response time, as they will likely be fielding many inquiries. Please do not contact The Omni Grove Park Inn with filming related questions.
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 email at GPI.events@omnihotels.com as soon as possible.

ENTRY CATEGORIES
The following categories are open for entry into the 2018 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.

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 2018 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 19, 2018 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/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 should not cause the entry’s overall height to exceed 24 inches. Weight is not to exceed 50lbs.

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) to decorate the outer edge of your plywood base only (not to exceed the length and/or width of the base).

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. Example: Assistance with operating stovetop/oven.

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 outer edge of the base or similar.

Please submit a copy of Entry and Process Description Form B no later than 5pm on Friday, November 2, 2018. You are permitted and encouraged to submit up to four photos of your process, but this is not required. Please see Form C for instructions.
COMPETITOR ROOM RESERVATIONS
OGPI offers a discounted room rate to competitors in the 2018 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 2018 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 two registered guests. If you are unable to book a room with a type selected, deselect type and search again to see availability.

DRIVING DIRECTIONS TO THE OMNI GROVE PARK INN
Hotel Address: 290 Macon Avenue, Asheville, NC, 28804
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
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 depending on wait times. It is mandatory to stay with your entry until final placement.

REGISTRATION DAY - SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2018
Child and Youth Division Registration | 9am-1pm
Break 1-2pm – No registrants will be accepted at this time
Teen and Adult Division Registration | 2pm-6pm

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. You will not be permitted to move forward in the process without properly parking your vehicle. 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(s) 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 19, 2018.

POST-DISPLAY ENTRY PICKUP
For competitors that wish to keep their gingerbread entry after the competition display has ended; entries must be picked up the between the hours of 9am and 5pm on Saturday, January 5 or Sunday, January 6, 2019. Entries remaining will be discarded beginning at 6pm on Sunday, January 6. Separate pick-up information will be sent to entrants whose pieces are being displayed at The Grove Arcade location.
2018 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 25, 2018, and ending Friday, January 4, 2019. With competition entry, permission is granted to OGPI to transport entries 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.

Please be aware the Grand Prize winning entry, along with other winning entries, may be removed from the National Gingerbread House Competition 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 2018 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 25, 2018 and continue through January 4, 2019. 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 23, 24, 25, 28, 29, 30, 31 and January 1, 2019).

VEHICLE PARKING
Competitor parking vouchers are distributed on site as part of the registration packet. Vouchers permit one standard vehicle, up to three hours of complimentary parking. Standard vehicle parking is subject to availability and is not guaranteed.

BUS AND OVERSIZED VEHICLE PARKING
Groups visiting the hotel in oversized vehicles must make advanced reservations with the Group Dining or Special Events departments to arrange parking. Competitor parking vouchers cannot be applied to oversized vehicle parking. This applies to buses, vans or any non-standard size vehicle that does not properly fit in a traditional parking space. For group dining reservations, contact GPI.GroupDining.omnihotels.com. Viewing only visits are available only Monday through Thursday, November 26 - December 13, 2018. To inquire about viewing only reservations, contact GPI.Events@omnihotels.com. Reservations made based on availability.

PLACING AND PRIZES
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. Winners of prize checks are required to fill out the appropriate tax forms in order for payment to be issued. Prize checks will be made out to the winner/ team captain and mailed to the address that is provided on the tax form. In order to expedite this process, please see a Special Events team member after the awards 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; may be asked to provide proof with valid driver’s license.)

ADULT CATEGORY
Grand Prize: $5,000 prize check, a two-night Club Floor stay at OGPI, dinner for two, daily breakfast for two, a Prize Package 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, 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
THE 2018 NATIONAL GINGERBREAD HOUSE COMPETITION™

COMPETITOR ENTRY FORM A

REQUIRED FOR ALL ENTRIES | DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 2, 2018

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY. All fields are mandatory.

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: __________________________________________

Distance traveled, in miles, to The Omni Grove Park Inn (290 Macon Ave, Asheville, NC) from home 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 2, 2018.
2. I must deliver my completed entry to OGPI on Sunday, November 18, 2018, at the time assigned to my division.
3. My entry will remain on display during OGPI’s holiday season through Friday, January 4, 2018.
4. I must pick up my entry between the hours of 9am and 5pm on Saturday, January 5 or Sunday, January 6, 2018. Entries not picked up will be discarded beginning at 6pm on Sunday, January 6, 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, assigns, 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.
7. Please be advised that by entering into the competition, entrants acknowledge that they may appear on camera as a part of this television special. As competitors plan to submit this year, please keep in mind that the production company is hoping to do a short interview with each of the top ten finalists in the Adult Category – but it is NOT a requirement as part of your submission. The production company will start conducting interviews the evening of the 19th then continue all day November 20th.

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: __________________________

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
Entry Number: __________

Name of Gingerbread Entry: ____________________________________________________________

Guidelines: 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 is not to exceed front and back of this document. You are welcome to submit this form with Competitor Entry Form A, or by 5pm on Friday, November 2, 2018.

Objective: Explain the backstory and/or theme, construction process and use of materials. This document will be available to the judges while evaluating your entry. The more insight you can provide regarding your construction, the better.

OPTIONAL: Up to four photos of your process may be included with your description, but are not required. Photos must be mounted/formatted on a single 8 ½ x 11 page; entry number must be visible and written clearly on this page. Please do not include faces in photos. This compromises the judging process and will disqualify their use.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

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THE 2018 NATIONAL GINGERBREAD HOUSE COMPETITION™
TEAM ENTRY FORM C
REQUIRED FOR ALL TEAM ENTRIES | DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 2, 2018

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Printed Name of Entrant__________________________________________________________ Birth Date: ___/___/____
I affirm that the entrant listed above is _________ years of age and will independently design, construct and decorate the entry to be submitted.
Signature of Entrant: __________________________________________________________ Date: __________________
Signature of Parent or Guardian: ___________________________________________ Date: __________________

Printed Name of Entrant__________________________________________________________ Birth Date: ___/___/____
I affirm that the entrant listed above is _________ years of age and will independently design, construct and decorate the entry to be submitted.
Signature of Entrant: __________________________________________________________ Date: __________________
Signature of Parent or Guardian: ___________________________________________ Date: __________________

Printed Name of Entrant__________________________________________________________ Birth Date: ___/___/____
I affirm that the entrant listed above is _________ years of age and will independently design, construct and decorate the entry to be submitted.
Signature of Entrant: __________________________________________________________ Date: __________________
Signature of Parent or Guardian: ___________________________________________ Date: __________________

Printed Name of Entrant__________________________________________________________ Birth Date: ___/___/____
I affirm that the entrant listed above is _________ years of age and will independently design, construct and decorate the entry to be submitted.
Signature of Entrant: __________________________________________________________ Date: __________________
Signature of Parent or Guardian: ___________________________________________ Date: __________________

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