



Register your Gingerbread: Your Entry Form must be received by Monday, December 8, 2014  
After registering, if you are unable to fulfill this commitment please notify asap!

**This Year's Theme: "Winter Wonderland"**

**Entrance Categories**

Individuals or Teams can enter in the following categories. The highest skill level of any individual team member should be used to decide the appropriate category for team entries.

- a. Entry level - Decorators with minimum decorating experience
- b. Non-Professionals – Decorators who primarily decorate cakes as a hobby, not as a business
- c. Advanced/professional – Those who consider themselves professional, or serious hobbyists who wish to compete at the highest level.

The Metro West Festival of Trees and its judges reserves the right to decide in their final and sole discretion whether an entry is in the Professional or Non-Professional Category

Show Directors and/or staff are not responsible for damage of any kind, although all care will be taken to prevent such occurrences.

Entries must be delivered between 2pm and 6pm on Friday, December 12, 2014. People's Choice votes will begin collecting at 5pm.

### **Gingerbread Construction Requirements**

- \* For the Entry Level Division, the base size can be no larger than 20" by 20" and no taller than 20".
- \* For the Professional and Non-Professional Divisions, the base size can be no larger than 30"x30" base, height cannot be taller than 24".
- \* For all divisions, weight cannot be more than 50lbs. & should be on a ½" or ¾" Plywood Base. Base size should be proportionate to house/art.
- \* **Build your house as sturdy as possible.**
- \* **Materials:** Use Gingerbread for your main structure. Colorful candies & icing will make your creation look festive & will catch the buyer's eye. You may use chocolate, gum paste, sugar, marzipan, royal icing, nougat and other edible food products. You can use decorative items such as tree branches, mirrors, toy people & animals, etc.
- \* Cake creations do not meet specifications.
- \* **Live plants, water ornaments, globes or other water features are not allowed.**
- \* **Lights :** Your gingerbread creation can be wired for lights (Please furnish an extension cord)
- \* Gingerbread "houses" can also be barns, doghouses, birdhouses, lighthouses & other imaginative dwellings.
- \* **Name your Display:** Please give your creation a name (limited to 22 characters, including Spaces) . We will place a sign with the name of your creation. Names of the entrants will be added after judging.
- \* **Skirted tables will be provided**

### **Judging**

- \* Entries will be judged on creativity/originality/craftsmanship/degree of difficulty/artistic coordination/overall appearance & adherence to theme.
- \* Entries MUST be sole work of the entrant(s)
- \* Winners will be determined by judges appointed by the Metro West Festival of Trees in the three (3) eligible categories, and all rulings by the judges are final.
- \* Judging will take place at 2PM, Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup>. People's Choice votes will be counted at that time.

### **Prizes**

- \* Winning Entry of the Professional Division will receive \$250 and a ribbon.
- \* Winning Entry of the Non-Professional Division will receive \$200 and a ribbon.
- \* Winning Entry of the Entry Level Division will receive \$50 and a ribbon.
- \* Second and third place entries will also receive ribbons. Additional cash prizes will be awarded if the number of entrants and sponsors warrant. Announcement of further cash prizes will be made prior to the beginning of the Festival.
- \* A People's Choice Award Ribbon will be given to the entry given the most votes by Festival attendees.
- \* Splitting of any prize awarded to a team will be left to the discretion of the team.
- \* Prize checks will be given to the winners after judging or sent to the name and address on the entry form.

You may submit as many entries as you desire but no individual or team can win more than one ribbon (with the exception of the People's Choice). Each entry submitted will receive 2 free admission tickets for individual entrants and 4 admission tickets for group entrants.

You may donate your entry to the Festival of Trees or pick it up by 6:00pm Sunday, Dec. 14. Entries that are not picked up by that time will become property of the Metrowest Festival of Trees and will be auctioned off.