

Rules

Each entrant (solo or group) is allowed to submit one house.

The use of gingerbread house kits are allowed to be used ONLY by solo entrants age 10 and younger or group entries where all participants are age 10 and younger.

All gingerbread houses must be placed on a board base not exceeding 18"x18". We suggest using ½" or ¾" plywood as your base. Cardboard bases will not be accepted.

Please include your name and gingerbread house title on the bottom of the base.

All gingerbread house entries must be in the form of a house.

No artificial interior materials, such as Styrofoam, are to be used to construct or decorate the house.

All gingerbread houses must be 100% edible. Non-edible support structure materials other than the baseboard may not be used.

Non-edible decorations, like paint, ribbon, figurines, etc. may be used ONLY to decorate your base.

Scoring

All gingerbread houses are judged and scored together, regardless of it being a solo or group entry, by a group of community representatives selected by the Town of Cary for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place, and by online votes for the People's Choice winner.

Judges will score the houses on a scale of 1-10 in the following categories: overall appearance, difficulty, creativity/originality, and technique/skill. The houses with the most points will receive the awards.

The general public will be able to vote for the People's Choice Award via electronic submission only following links provided on the Heart of the Holidays Gingerbread House Competition page at www.townofcary.org at using QR codes at each house until 11:59 p.m. on Saturday, December 1, 2018.

In the event of a tie for 1st, 2nd, and/or 3rd place, for example five houses receive a perfect score, the judges will move to a secondary scoring system. Each judge will rank the tied houses based on their personal preference. Each rank will be scored an equivalent point value. The house with the lowest points accumulated will receive the highest rank and so on. In the event of a secondary tie, as showing the example below, the same procedure will repeat for the tied position. For example:

Relieving the tie for 1st place, resulting in 1st, 2nd, & 3rd, between five houses

	Judge #1	Judge #2	Judge #3	Total Points	Placement
House #1	4 th = 4 points	3 rd = 3 points	4 th = 4 points	11	4 th
House #7	1 st = 1 point	1 st = 1 point	1 st = 1 point	3	1 st
House #11	3 rd = 3 points	2 nd = 2 points	3 rd = 3 points	8	Tie for 2 nd
House #18	2 nd = 2 points	4 th = 4 points	2 nd = 2 points	8	Tie for 2 nd
House #23	5 th = 5 points	5 th = 5 points	5 th = 5 points	15	5 th

Relieving the tie for 2nd place, resulting in 2nd & 3rd, between two houses

	Judge #1	Judge #2	Judge #3	Total Points	Placement
House #11	2 nd = 2 points	1 st = 1 point	2 nd = 2 points	5	3 rd
House #18	1 st = 1 point	2 nd = 2 points	1 st = 1 point	4	2 nd

In the event of a tie for the People's Choice Award, the judge's sheets will be consulted for the highest cumulative score. In the event that consulting the judge's scores does not alleviate the tie, all houses tied will receive a People's Choice award.

Houses that medal (1st, 2nd, or 3rd place) are eligible to receive the People Choice Award as well.

All placement determinations will be decided on Saturday, December 1, 2018. Winners will be notified via phone on Monday, December 3, 2018. If you are not notified of a placement, you are expected to pick-up or arrange for disposal of your house from your assigned business.

Houses receiving 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place will be put on display at The Cary Arts Center throughout the month of December. The People's Choice Award, 4th, and 5th place will be put on display at The Mayton Inn throughout the month of December. In the event that the People's Choice Award goes to a medaling house, houses in 4th, 5th, and 6th place will be put on display. Winning houses will be moved by Town of Cary staff members on Monday, December 3, 2018 to those locations.