

Gingerbread House Contest & Show

Rules for 2025

1. Any **structure** is eligible for entry as long as it reflects the history and culture of Prince George's County. Entries can represent local landmarks, architecture, stories, and traditions. Contestants are encouraged to draw inspiration from the county's historic sites, cultural icons, historical events, and community narratives.
2. Entry must be original - no gingerbread kits allowed.
3. Entry must have **MAJOR** components, such as roof & walls, made of gingerbread (no graham crackers, cookies, etc.).
4. All components must be edible. For example, all foil or plastic wrapped candies must be unwrapped; lollipops cannot have paper or plastic stems. **NO** perishable items can be used in the making of the entry.
5. You may add electric lighting to your entry.
6. Entry must have been constructed in 2025.
7. Before the entries are put on display, a panel of judges will award ribbons and money in each of the three divisions. All entries will be judged on **Originality/Creativity, Overall Appearance, Use of Materials, Difficulty of Design, and Precision.**
8. The main structure must be the dominant feature of the entry. The main structure must be a minimum of **7" high by 8" wide**. Entries cannot exceed 26" in height.
9. Entries must be freestanding and attached to a plywood base that is **NO bigger than 24" long x 18" wide**. The plywood base must be completely concealed with an edible product; however, the sides of the base do not have to be concealed. We suggest attaching a pretty ribbon around the sides of the base.
10. For prize money to be awarded in the Viewer's Choice Competition – a division must have a minimum of five entries.
11. The Museum reserves the right not to display an entry, if the entry is not considered of show quality.
12. All entries must be delivered to the Museum in completed form on Sunday, November 23, 2025, between 12 - 3 pm. **Drop-off times will be scheduled in advance. The Museum will contact contestants to schedule.**
13. Entries must be picked up on Sunday, December 14, 2025, at 5 pm (no earlier).

Registration

Participants must register online or via US Mail for the competition by the deadline of **Friday, November 7, 2025**. A registration fee of \$5.00 is due for each entry.