

## **Return of the Historical Bear Mountain Inn Gingerbread Competition 2024**

This pamphlet includes all the procedures and rules to participate in the Bear Mountain Inn Gingerbread Competition for the 2024 season. This competition takes place at the Bear Mountain Inn Main Lodge. Please follow the instructions completely in order to be eligible to compete. Bear Mountain Inn reserves the right to refuse any entry deemed inappropriate or non-compliant with the rules. For additional information or questions, please email [events@visitbearmountain.com](mailto:events@visitbearmountain.com).

### **Entry Submission Guidelines:**

#### **Category for entries:**

**Adults:** 18 years old and older who are entering as a single entrant or a team.

**Junior:** 10 years old through 17 years old who are entering as a single entrant or a team. All Junior competitors must have a parent or legal guardian signature to participate.

#### **Entry Application, Acceptance and Confirmation:**

Entries will be accepted on a first-come basis. A fixed number of entries will be accepted into each category. Once that category is filled, registration will be closed. Please make sure your Competitor Entry Form is filled out correctly and legibly before submitting. Entries will be reviewed as they are received. If there are additional questions, a Gingerbread Committee Member will reach out to the competitor or Team Captain. If the entry is accepted, the competitor or Team Captain will receive confirmation and their entry number by Friday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024.

**Submission:** To be eligible for the competition, a completed Competition Entry Form must be submitted and received by 5:00 PM on Thursday, November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2024, or until available space is filled, whichever comes first. Each participant may only submit one entry, either as an individual or as part of a team. If they are entered as an individual, they cannot participate as a team member or vice versa. Whichever entry is received first is the one they will be approved for.

**Individual Entry:** Individual entries are for single person competitors. Teams are not allowed to work on a project that is submitted as an Individual Entry.

**Team Entry:** Team entries are for entries that include multiple people (two or more) working on a single project. Teams can only submit one Competitor Entry Form, including a team captain's contact information and all the team members' names including their ages. The team must be entered in the appropriate category for the oldest individual in the group. If all team members are under the age of 18, a signature of a parent or legal guardian for each team member is required to participate. In the event a team entry wins a prize, the Team Captain will be the recipient of any prizes. Distribution and the splitting of any prize will be left to the team captain to determine. All communications will be sent via email to the Team Captain.



**Communications:** All accepted complete entries will receive a confirmation receipt email once the entry is received. Confirmation e-mails will include their entry number to be displayed on the project.

## Entry Criteria

### Materials & Construction:

- Everything that is visible must be constructed and composed completely of edible materials.
- Non-visible supports may be made of non-edible materials.
- The main structure of your entry must be constructed of at least 50% Gingerbread, and at least 25% of baked Gingerbread, which must be exposed.
- Ginger Clay may be used in the construction of the piece, but will not count towards the required 25% exposed baked Gingerbread.
- The Gingerbread can be painted or dyed light colors, but must clearly be recognizable as Gingerbread.
- 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. Due to the danger of working with hot sugar, techniques using poured hot sugar or isomalt are reserved for the adult categories.
- Any entry with non-edible components visible will be disqualified.
- No external or internal lighting may be used.
- Candies must be unwrapped and free of any non-edible materials.
- Non-edible materials such as paint and/or ribbon can be used only to decorate the outer edge of the plywood base and are considered as part of the base and should not cause the entry's height to exceed 24 inches.
- All entries must be solely constructed by the individuals entering the competition.
- For safety precautions, Junior competitors may be supervised, by a parent, legal guardian, or classroom teacher if Junior competitor requires assistance with operating ovens and/or stovetops.

### Dimension Limitations:

The entries must be placed on a board base. With the base, the entry must not be larger than 24 inches high, 24 inches wide, and 24 inches long. We suggest using a plywood base. The use of pegs or risers on the bottom of the base may be used but are not required. Pegs and risers cannot cause the structure to exceed the 24 inches height limitation.

### Entry Coding:

Entry must be clearly labeled with the assigned entry number visible on the front of the base for the Judges reference. If you arrive without your entry number clearly visible, you will be required to add it at the time of registration. No names can be displayed with your Gingerbread House Entry.

### Entry Description:

The description should inform the voters of your vision, process, materials, and techniques used to create your entry. Please feel free to submit photos of your process along with your description. The Entry Description and supporting photos must be submitted along with your Gingerbread House.

**Entry Delivery:**

Gingerbread Houses must be delivered to Bear Mountain Inn Main Lodge from Wednesday, December 11<sup>th</sup> through Friday, December 13<sup>th</sup> between 9:00am and 6:00pm. Special arrangements can be made to deliver outside these hours by emailing [bearmountainevents@visitbearmountain.com](mailto:bearmountainevents@visitbearmountain.com)

**Judging and Criteria:**

Entries will be judged on the following:

1. Overall Appearance
2. Originality & Creativity
3. Difficulty
4. Precision

The entry is not limited to a house structure. Competitors are encouraged to use creativity in their design and construction. Please keep your design appropriate for families with young children. Bear Mountain reserves the right to deny any entry deemed inappropriate.

There must be at least 25% exposed baked Gingerbread on the entry. Entries with less than 25% baked Gingerbread will be disqualified. The Gingerbread can be painted or dyed, but must be recognizable as Gingerbread. Ginger Clay may be used but will not count towards the 25% required exposed baked Gingerbread. Decorative elements that are handmade will carry more weight than similar prefab items.

**Use of store-bought kits is discouraged.**

There is a panel of Bear Mountain Employees from various parts of the operation that will judge the entries based on the four criteria listed above.

Guests of the park have will have the ability to vote on their favorite entry.

## **Placing and Prizes**

The Bear Mountain Inn Gingerbread Team will award prizes for first, second and third place entries for Adult and Junior Categories. In addition, prizes will be awarded for the Public Favorites for each of the adult and junior categories. By entering the competition, you are agreeing to allow the Bear Mountain Inn to place your Gingerbread House on display at the Inn. First through Third place voting will be done by the Bear Mountain Inn Gingerbread Team and public voting will be available during the display time period of December 13<sup>th</sup> through December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024, at the Main Lodge of the Bear Mountain Inn.

### **Adult Category:**

**First Place:** A two-night stay at Bear Mountain Inn/Overlook Lodge for two, a \$500 Bear Mountain Trading Post Retail Shop Gift Card and Dinner for two at our 1915 Restaurant, including a Bottle of Wine and after dinner desserts & coffees. (*Approximate value up to \$1,600*).

**Second Place:** A one-night stay at Bear Mountain Inn/Overlook Lodge for two adults, Dinner for two at our 1915 Restaurant including after dinner desserts & coffees and a \$200 Bear Mountain Trading Post Retail Shop Gift Card (*Approximate value up to \$800*).

**Third Place:** A \$150 Bear Mountain Trading Post Retail Shop Gift Card and Afternoon Tea for four at our 1915 Restaurant (*Approximate value up to \$300*).

**Public Favorite:** For the piece that is selected as the Public Favorite, the creator or team will receive a gift certificate for Afternoon Tea for 6 in the 1915 Restaurant (*Approximate value up to \$175*).

### **Junior Category:**

**First Place:** Dinner for three at Bear Mountain Inn 1915 Restaurant, Recreation Passes for eight people (Paddle Boats and Carousel) and a \$250 Bear Mountain Trading Post Gift Card (*Approximate value up to \$650*).

**Second Place:** Dinner for two at Bear Mountain Inn 1915 Restaurant and a \$100 Bear Mountain Trading Post Gift Card (*Approximate value up to \$300*).

**Third Place:** Afternoon Tea for four at our 1915 Restaurant and a \$75 Bear Mountain Trading Post Retail Shop Gift Card and (*Approximate value up to \$195*).

**Public Favorite:** For the piece that is selected as the Public Favorite, the creator or team will receive a gift certificate for Afternoon Tea for 4 in the 1915 Restaurant (*Approximate value up to \$100*).

### **Awarding of Prizes**

Final Voting will take place on December 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024, and all competitors will be notified of the winners for each category. If you wish to pick up your entry you can do so after this date. Entries not picked up by Jan 6<sup>th</sup> will be discarded.

**OFFICIAL ENTRY FORMS CAN BE FOUND USING THE LINKS ON OUR WEBPAGE.  
ENTRY FORMS MUST BE RECEIVED BY FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup> 2024 BY 5:00PM.  
COMPETITORS WILL RECEIVE A CONFIRMATION EMAIL WITH THEIR ENTRY NUMBER ONCE  
THEIR ENTRY FORM IS PROCESSED AND APPROVED.**